This is a digital copy of a book that was preserved for generations on library shelves before it was carefully scanned by Google as part of a project to make the world's books discoverable online.

It has survived long enough for the copyright to expire and the book to enter the public domain. A public domain book is one that was never subject to copyright or whose legal copyright term has expired. Whether a book is in the public domain may vary country to country. Public domain books are our gateways to the past, representing a wealth of history, culture and knowledge that's often difficult to discover.

Marks, notations and other marginalia present in the original volume will appear in this file - a reminder of this book's long journey from the publisher to a library and finally to you.

Usage guidelines

Google is proud to partner with libraries to digitize public domain materials and make them widely accessible. Public domain books belong to the public and we are merely their custodians. Nevertheless, this work is expensive, so in order to keep providing this resource, we have taken steps to prevent abuse by commercial parties, including placing technical restrictions on automated querying.

We also ask that you:

+ *Make non-commercial use of the files* We designed Google Book Search for use by individuals, and we request that you use these files for personal, non-commercial purposes.

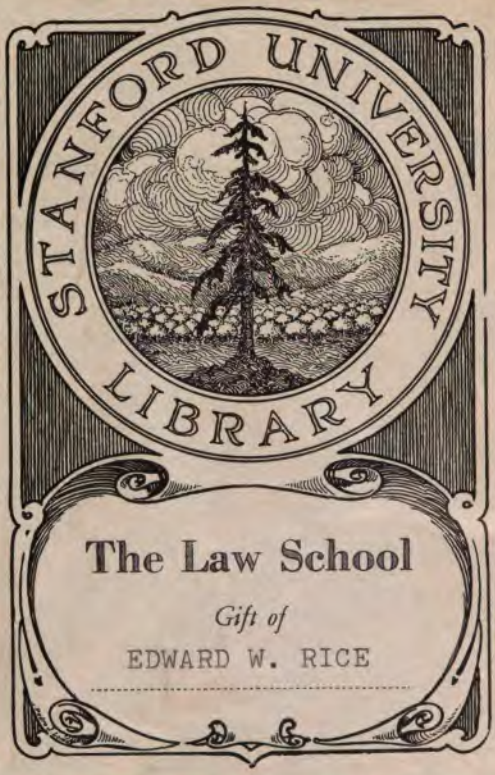
+ *Refrain from automated querying* Do not send automated queries of any sort to Google's system: If you are conducting research on machine translation, optical character recognition or other areas where access to a large amount of text is helpful, please contact us. We encourage the use of public domain materials for these purposes and may be able to help.

+ *Maintain attribution* The Google "watermark" you see on each file is essential for informing people about this project and helping them find additional materials through Google Book Search. Please do not remove it.

+ *Keep it legal* Whatever your use, remember that you are responsible for ensuring that what you are doing is legal. Do not assume that just because we believe a book is in the public domain for users in the United States, that the work is also in the public domain for users in other countries. Whether a book is still in copyright varies from country to country, and we can't offer guidance on whether any specific use of any specific book is allowed. Please do not assume that a book's appearance in Google Book Search means it can be used in any manner anywhere in the world. Copyright infringement liability can be quite severe.

About Google Book Search

Google's mission is to organize the world's information and to make it universally accessible and useful. Google Book Search helps readers discover the world's books while helping authors and publishers reach new audiences. You can search through the full text of this book on the web at `http://books.google.com/`



The Law School

Gift of

EDWARD W. RICE

EP
AKM
JMc

CHARTERS

OF THE TOWN OF

KINGSTON UPON THAMES.

THE CHARTERS OF THE TOWN OF KINGSTON UPON THAMES, Eng.

Charters.

Tranſlated into Engliſh:

WITH

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By *GEORGE ROOTS*,
OF LINCOLN'S INN.

London:
Printed by G. Auld, Greville-Street, Hatton-Garden,
FOR T. CADELL, JUN. AND W. DAVIES
(SUCCESSORS TO MR. CADELL) IN THE STRAND.

1797.

To

The Right Honourable

LORD ONSLOW,

THE HIGH STEWARD,

THE BAILIFFS AND FREEMEN

of

The Town of Kingſton upon Thames,

THIS TRANSLATION

of

THE CHARTERS OF THE SAME TOWN,

is inſcribed

by their obedient

and humble Servant,

The Author.

NAMES OF SUBSCRIBERS.

B.

Sir Robert Baker, Bart.
Mr. John Baker
John Beale, Eſq.
Mr. Belchier
Mr. Bentley
William Bowles, Eſq.
George Bowles, Eſq.
Wentworth Brinley, Eſq.
Francis Broadhead, Eſq.
William Brodie, Eſq.
Mr. William Burcombe
Mr. Byo

C.

Mr. Richard Carter
Mr. Cawſton
Harry Chambers, Eſq.
Edward Collins, Eſq.
John Copeland, Eſq.
Stephen Aſten Cumberlege, Eſq.

William

D.

William Douglas, Eſq.

E.

Nathaniel Edmonds, Eſq.

F.

Benjamin Farmer, Eſq.
Mr. John Farnham
Sir John Frederick, Bart. M. P. 2 copies
Mr. William French
Richard Frewin, Eſq.
Edward Fuhr, Eſq. 5 copies

G.

Right Honourable Lord Grantley 2 copies
Charles Gapper, Eſq.
Richard Geldard, Eſq.
William Mann Godſchall, Eſq.
Abraham Goodwin, Eſq.
Mr. Grantham

H.

Anthony Hart, Eſq. 6 copies
Mr. Hitchiner

J.

Mr. James
Charles Jemmett, Eſq.
Maurice Jones, Eſq.

Sir

K.

Sir Thomas Kent 5 copies
Mr. Knight

L.

Right Honourable Lord Leſlie
Mrs. Legh 5 copies
John Linfield, Eſq. 2 copies
Thomas Lintall, Eſq.
Thomas Lintall, jun. Eſq.

M.

Reverend Mr. M'Kenzie
James Mark, Eſq.
Sir Joſeph Mawbey, Bart.

O.

Right Honourable Lord Onſlow 2 copies

P.

John Sharp Palmer, Eſq.
Thomas Pembroke, Eſq.
Mr. Penfold
Reverend Mr. Pennicott
William Lee Perkins, M. D.
George Auguſtus Pollen, Eſq. M. P. 10 copies
Mr. Robert Porter

Right

SUBSCRIBERS NAMES.

R.

Right Honourable Lord William Ruſſel, M. P.
Mr. Ranyard
Thomas Raymond, Eſq. 2 copies
Mr. Rockwell
Thomas Ryley, Eſq.

S.

Honourable General St. John 2 copies
Mr. Thomas Stephens
William Stiel, Eſq.
John Sudlow, Eſq.
Rich. Joſ. Sulivan, Eſq. F.R.S. and F.A.S. 5 copies
John Sulivan, Eſq.
George Holmes Sumner, Eſq. 3 copies
Thomas Sutton, Eſq. 5 copies.

T.

Right Honourable Earl Tyrconnel, M. P.
Henry Taylor, Eſq.
Mr. Thomas Taylor
Chriſtopher Terry, Eſq.
Wotton Birkinſhaw Thomas, Eſq.
Vaughan Thomas, Eſq.
Sir Thomas Turton, Bart.
Richard Twopeny, Eſq.
Charles Kemyſs Tynte, Eſq.

V.

Mr. Varden

Mr.

SUBSCRIBERS NAMES.

W.

Mr. George Wadbrook
Mr. Ward
Mr. Wedge
Robert Willan, M. D. and F. A. S.
Reverend Mr. Wilſon
Mr. Windſor
William Samuel Wotton, Eſq. 5 copies

PREFACE.

TO the general hiſtory of Kingſton, ſo well underſtood, little or nothing new is to be ſaid in addition. I had entertained the hope, however, that the records of the town might have afforded ſome anecdotes relating to it, worthy of the peruſal of the reader; but in this I was miſtaken, not having been ſo ſucceſsful as to meet with any thing there either intereſting or curious. There are ſeveral old books of churchwardens and overſeers accounts, wherein there is little worthy of notice beyond the difference they exhibit between the price of proviſions and labour at the time they were written and the preſent. Of this Mr. Lyſons has taken notice, in his *Hiſtorical Account of the Environs within Twelve Miles of London*; wherein he has comprized moſt of the particulars to be met with in the different authors who have treated upon Kingſton before.

Accurate as he is in his general deſcription, this Gentleman ſeems to have fallen into an error in one place, where he ſtates that "Kingſton ceaſed to be a borough, in conſequence "of a petition from the corporation (recorded "in the Town-Clerk's Office) the prayer of "which was, that they might be relieved from "the burden of ſending Members to Parliament;"—and in ſupport of which he refers the reader to *Willis's Notitia Parliamentaria.* But this I apprehend is a miſtake; for I have peruſed this author, without being able to meet with any ſuch paſſage; and I have ſearched and made enquiries, but in vain, for the petition. It is more than probable, therefore, that this privilege was loſt merely by diſcontinuance, as was the caſe with ſeveral other places; and a ſhort examination of the ancient method of carrying into execution the elective franchiſe will doubly warrant this ſuppoſition.

* Neither preſcription nor the ancient charters of any of our Kings, appear to have conſtituted the primary and original right by which cities and boroughs formerly ſent citizens and burgeſſes to parliament. † It was not till conſiderably after the union of the houſes of York

* Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe.

† Author of the Tranſlation of Sully's Memoirs.

and

and Lancaſter, that it became a practice to grant charters to places, empowering them with this privilege. There is one inſtance to the contrary noted in Willis's book, as early as King Edward IV. who, by a charter dated 29th of November 1448, emprivileged *Wenlock Magna*, in the county of Shropſhire, to ſend one burgeſs to parliament; which is the firſt precedent, according to the ſame author, that occurs in the charter of any borough. But it was a thing by no means common at that time, nor became ſo till the reign of Henry VIII. and Edward VI. when we meet with many inſtances.

* Before that period it was left wholly to the ſheriff of each county to name and direct which were boroughs, and which not, by virtue of the general and indefinite clauſe contained in the King's writs of ſummons of parliaments iſſued to the ſheriffs of every county, prior to the aſſembling of every ſuch parliament. In that age of our political ſimplicity, when the ſpirit of party and the rage of faction were alike unknown, there was not ſuch a general ambition of being called to the ſenate as at preſent; † but the perſons elected, as well as the perſons electing them, eſteemed it rather a burthen and

* Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe.

† Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe. Johnſton's Excellency of Monarchical Government.

an inconvenience, than an honour and an advantage; and therefore, after being choſen, leſt they ſhould neglect to repair to the convention, they had ſureties (called Manucaptors) for their appearance there. The form of the royal mandate to the ſheriffs was in this manner:—"Tibi "præcipimus firmiter injungentes quod de co- "mitatu prædicto duos milites, et de *qualibet* "*civitate* ejuſdem comitatus duos cives, et de "*quolibet burgo* duos burgenſes de diſcretioribus "et ad laborandum potentioribus, &c. ſine di- "latione eligi et eos ad nos ad dictos diem et "locum venire facias; ita quod, &c. dicti cives "et burgenſes pro ſe et pro communitate civita- "tum et burgorum prædictorum diviſim ab ipſis "(militibus comitatus) habeant ad faciendum "et conſentiendum hiis quæ tunc de communi "conſilio contigerit ordinari," &c.—Under the authority of theſe general words *de qualibet civitate, et de quolibet burgo*, each ſheriff, according to his own will and diſcretion, ſent the writ directed to him, or the precepts grounded on it, to whatſoever cities or boroughs he pleaſed, uſing an arbitrary power in the execution of this office, either as his judgment directed, or favour and partiality ſwayed him *; this evidently appears in the difference we find between their ſeveral returns; ſome ſheriffs returning more bo-

* Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe.

roughs

roughs and burgeſſes than their predeceſſors; others fewer; ſome omitting thoſe very boroughs which their predeceſſors had returned; and others again cauſing elections and returns to be made for ſuch new boroughs as never elected or ſent any members either before or ſince the time of their ſhrievalties.

The firſt returns extant of knights, citizens, and burgeſſes, are 26 Edward I.; and in the return made for Wiltſhire, in that year, annexed to the writ, there were returned two knights for the county, two citizens for New Sarum, two burgeſſes for Downton, two burgeſſes for the Devizes, two for the borough of Chippenham, and two for Malmeſbury, with their Manucaptors; and the writ was alſo ſent to the conſtable of Marlborough, and to the bailiffs of the liberty of Calne and Worthe, who returned no anſwer. Theſe were the only places that the ſheriff of this year made his precepts to, and returns for accordingly.

In the returns of knights, citizens, and burgeſſes to ſerve for the ſame county, 12 Edward III. after the return of the knights, the ſheriff for that year returned only two citizens for New Sarum, two burgeſſes for Wilton, and two for Downton, with Manucaptors; and then for two burgeſſes for Marlborough, the writ was

returned to the conſtable of the caſtle of Marlborough, becauſe it could not be executed by the ſheriff in that liberty; and the conſtable gave him no anſwer. The ſheriff then, it appears, made his precept and return for theſe two boroughs only; one of which was not returned in the 26 Edward I.; and then after his anſwer concerning Marlborough, he cloſes his return thus: — "Non ſunt plures civitates, neque "burgi, infra ballivam meam," that is within the county; notwithſtanding Bedwin, Calne, Chippenham, Cricklade, Devizes, Ludgerſhall, Malmeſbury, and Marlborough (but eſpecially the two latter) had frequently returned burgeſſes to parliament before.

In the return of the 36th year of the ſame reign, after the knights for the county, and two citizens for New Sarum, there were by the ſheriff for that year returned two burgeſſes for Wilton, two for the borough of Old Sarum, two for the borough of Downton, two for the borough of Chippenham, two for the borough of Calne, two for the borough of Marlborough, two for the borough of Devizes, two for the borough of Malmeſbury, two for the borough of Cricklade, and two for Bedwin; and then after the names of the burgeſſes for theſe ten boroughs, with their Manucaptors, the ſheriff cloſes his return with theſe words, "Et non ſunt plures "civitates

" civitates nec burgi in comitatu prædicto, ideo " inde ulterius nihil actum eſt;" ' and there are no more cities nor boroughs within the ſaid county, and therefore there is nothing further done in this matter.'

In this return, notwithſtanding the ſheriff returned that there were no more cities nor boroughs within his county, yet he left out Ludgerſhall, which had ſent burgeſſes to parliament 7 Edward II.; twice in the 8th of Edward II.; and the 4th, 14th, and 33d of Edward III.; as the returns of thoſe years ſhew.

In the 43 Edward III. the ſheriff returns only the names of the knights, citizens for New Sarum, and burgeſſes for Wilton, Old Sarum, Marlborough, the Devizes, Malmeſbury, Cricklade, and no more; making no return for Calne, Chippenham, Bedwin, or Ludgerſhall, nor any excuſe why he did not.

In the 26 Edward I. the ſheriff of Buckinghamſhire made this return on the dors of the writ, " Nulli ſunt cives, nec burgenſes in com. " prædict. nec civitas nec burgus, propter quod " cives nec burgenſes coram vobis venire facere " non poſſum." ' There are no citizens nor burgeſſes in the county aforeſaid, nor city nor

borough; for which cauſe I cannot make citizens or burgeſſes to come before you.'

In the 28th of the ſame reign, the ſheriff returned for Agmondeſham, Wycomb, and Wendover, two burgeſſes each, who were elected by thoſe places.

In the 30th year of the ſame reign, there were only two burgeſſes returned for Wycomb, and none for either Agmondeſham or Wendover.

In the 1ſt and 2nd Edward II. the then ſheriffs returned two burgeſſes for Wycomb, two for Wendover, two for Agmondeſham, and two for Great Marlow.

And in the 6 Edward II. the ſheriff returned "Nulla ſunt civitates in com. Bucks, nec etiam "burgi, præter in villa de Wycombe." 'There are no cities nor boroughs in the county of Buckinghamſhire, except in the town of Wycomb.'

In the 12th of the ſame King, Wycomb alone is returned in Bucks; and in the cloſe of the return, "Nulla eſt civitas, nec plures burgi in bal-"liva mea." 'There is no city nor more boroughs in my bailiwick;' and ſo no other boroughs were returned in this county until after the reign of Edward IV. or the parliament in 1641. Beſides

theſe

theſe few inſtances which I have ſelected, there are divers omiſſions of many other inconſiderable boroughs for 50, 100, 150, and from that to 300 or more years, grounded upon the like returns; ſome of which only ſent burgeſſes once or twice before the years 1640—1 *. For inſtance, Cockermouth, in the county of Cumberland, made two returns; one in the reign of Edward I. and one in Edward III.; but none afterwards till 1640, ſince which it has regularly ſent two †. Tregony likewiſe, in Cornwall, made two returns to parliament in the reign of Edward I. but no more till the 5th of Queen Elizabeth. Thus it was alſo in Yorkſhire, Lincolnſhire, Dorſetſhire, Devonſhire, Somerſet, Southampton, Surrey, Suſſex, and moſt, if not all the counties in England, where there were at the time of making the returns, any ſmall, poor, or inconſiderable boroughs; and where the ſheriffs were more or leſs kind to them, they returned or omitted them at pleaſure.

And to ſuch a length was this practice of the ſheriffs carried, that there was a law paſſed in the 5 Richard II. that if any ſheriff ſhould from thenceforth be negligent in making his returns of writs of the parliament, or ſhould leave out of the ſaid returns any cities or boroughs that

* Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe.
† Curioſities of Great Britain.

were

were bound, and of old time were wont to come to parliament, he ſhould be puniſhed in the ſame manner as was accuſtomed to be done in the ſaid caſe in time paſt. But notwithſtanding this law, the ſheriffs ſtill continued to act in many inſtances as they had done before.

By this then it is evident, that from the 23 Edward I. when the firſt writs were iſſued for the choice of citizens and burgeſſes, and alſo during the ſeveral reigns of Edward II. and III. Richard II. Henry IV. V. and VI. and Edward IV. it was left ſolely to the diſcretion and judgment of the ſheriffs to determine which boroughs were fit and able to ſend burgeſſes, and which not; and if any borough, once able, became poor and indigent, and unable to pay the expences of their burgeſſes, or had none fit to chuſe, it was conſidered as affording juſt grounds for the ſheriff to excuſe them from the trouble and charge of electing and ſending members, notwithſtanding the ſtatutes 5 Richard II. c. 4. — 1 Henry V. c. 1. — 8 Henry VI. c. 7. and 23 Henry VI. c. 15.

The charters of ancient boroughs (as Prynne obſerves) contained no clauſe or grant for the choice or election of burgeſſes to ſerve in parliament; and he ſtates further, that he had never heard of nor ſeen any particular directions from the

the King and Council, or others, to the ſheriffs, for the ſending their precepts to this or that borough only, and not to others.

Nor during the whole of theſe ſeveral reigns do we find that the boroughs ever complained of the ſheriffs for not returning them, or neglecting to ſend their precepts to them; nor did they ever remonſtrate as being hardly uſed or dealt with, not accounting it at that time any advantage, honour, or privilege to be bound to ſend burgeſſes to parliament *; but, on the contrary, it being reputed a burthen and grievance where poor and ſmall boroughs were obliged to ſend them, as was the caſe with Toriton, in Devonſhire, that petitioned the King in parliament to be diſcharged from ſending burgeſſes; ſtating that it was a great trouble and charge, and to their manifeſt damage and depreſſion.

† This borough, as appears by the returns before the 42 Edward III. had upon ſeveral writs and precepts elected and returned burgeſſes to no leſs than thirty-two parliaments, and had at that time two burgeſſes returned for the parliament of 42 Edward III. which began the 1ſt of May. No ſooner was this parliament aſſembled, than the bailiffs, burgeſſes, and whole common-

* Prynne's Brev. Parl. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe.
† Ibid.

alty

alty of Toriton exhibited their complaint by petition to the King in parliament, ſetting forth that they ought not to be burthened with the ſending any men out of the town to parliament, for the reaſons expreſſed in this memorable patent of exemption from ſending burgeſſes to any parliaments.

" Rex ballivis et probis hominibus et toti " communitati villæ de Toriton in comitatu " Devon. ſalutem. Ex parte veſtra nobis eſt " monſtratum quod cum villa ad mittend. ali- " quos homines, pro eadem villa ad parliamenta " noſtra, vel progenitorum noſtrorum quondam " regum Angliæ non miſerit, nec mittere con- " ſueverit ante annum regni noſtri viceſimum " primum quo tempore vicecomes noſter comi- " tatus prædicti qui tunc fuit, dictam villam de " Toriton burgum et duos homines pro eodem " burgo ad veniendum ad parliamentum noſ- " trum, dicto anno viceſimo primo tentum ſum- " monitos fuiſſe malitioſe in cancellaria noſtra " retornavit. Et ſic eadem villa de Toriton ab " eodem anno viceſimo primo ad inveniend. " duos homines pro eadem villa in ſingulis annis " parliamentis noſtris tentis pretextu retorni " prædicti onerata extitit : Et vos ea occaſione " laboribus et expenſis multipliciter gravati " fuiſtis ad veſtrum dampnum non modicum " et depreſſionem manifeſtam, ſuper quo nobis ſupplicaſtis

" ſupplicaſtis vobis remedium adhiberi oppor-
" tunum. Et quia ſcrutatis rotulis et memo-
" randis cancellariæ noſtræ non eſt compertum
" nomina aliquorum hominum pro dicta villa
" ſeu burgo de Toriton ad veniend. ad parlia-
" menta noſtra ante dictum viceſimum primum
" retorn. fuiſſe nos nolentes dictam villam de
" Toriton occaſione prædicta indebite onerari,
" vos et villam prædictam ad inveniend. ſeu
" mittend. aliquos homines ad parliamenta noſ-
" tra de cetero communis ſummonitionis parlia-
" mentorum eorundem *habemus et tenemus ex-*
" *cuſatos*, et vos inde exoneramus per præſentes
" in perpetuum. In cujus rei teſtimonium, &c.
" Teſte rege apud Weſtm. 18 die Martii.

" per petitionem de Parliamento."

*It is obſervable that, notwithſtanding this patent, exempting the men and borough of Toriton from being obliged to ſend burgeſſes to any future parliaments; yet the very next year, 43 Edward III. and likewiſe an. 46, 47, 50 Edward III. — 5, 6, 7, 8, and 20 Richard II. and 1 and 5 Henry IV. they conſtantly found and ſent two burgeſſes themſelves, or had them returned for them by the ſheriff; but ſince the 5 Henry IV. till his time, the ſame author obſerves that they never had any burgeſſes returned

* Prynne's Brev. Parliament. Brady's Hiſtorical Treatiſe.

that

that he could find by record or hiſtory. From which he is induced to believe, that this miſinformation was either diſproved by the ſheriff of Devon, or others, upon better ſearch of the rolls and memorials of Chancery; and thereupon this patent revoked or declared null in law, becauſe grounded upon a falſe information, or elſe becauſe Toriton was an ancient borough, not fit to be exempted from ſending burgeſſes to future parliaments, as the ſtatute 5 Richard II. declared the old law of England to be.

Theſe circumſtances conſidered, will, I conceive, afford ſufficient room for belief, that the true reaſon of * Kingſton having diſcontinued to ſend burgeſſes was, not becauſe of any petition being ever preſented for ſuch exemption, but becauſe the ſheriff omitted, either through favour or from ſome other motive, to ſend his

* This is not the only diſcontinued borough in this county that formerly ſent members. The borough of Farnham alſo has made three returns to parliament, though it has now loſt that privilege.
4 Ed. II. parl. at Weſt. Tho. de Tyghelere, Tho. de Sutton
5 Ed. II. parl. at Lon. Tho. de Tyghelere, Tho. de Sutton
38 Hen. VI. parl. at Weſt. H. Taddenham, Rich. Beaufitz.
This Thomas de Sutton was an anceſtor of our late worthy ſheriff, Thomas Sutton of Moleſy, Eſq. whoſe family is of great antiquity, tracing its deſcent, as appears by a pedigree through the barony of Lexington, as high as the Norman conqueſt, and ſettled in the county of Surry ſeveral centuries back.

precept

precept to them for that purpoſe, — as the grounds upon which they ever elected any, may reaſonably be aſcribed to the ſame arbitrary inclination in the ſheriff, in compelling them to make a return.

With regard to the number of returns ever made by that place, I obſerve Mr. Lyſons follows the author of the Notitia Parliamentaria, who ſtates only four, namely in the 4, 5, and 6 Edward II. and 47 Edward III. whereas Prynne, Camden, the Magna Britannia, and the Hiſtory of Surry, make them five, by adding to the above four the 26th Edward III. alſo: though Prynne, it is true, in his account of the names of the burgeſſes, omits thoſe who ſerved in the latter; which may be owing to the return having been loſt, or not found when the others were: and the copy of it is alſo wanting in the archives of the town, where they have copies of the four other returns taken from the originals found in the Tower. The following is a liſt of the burgeſſes who were returned by that place, and the parliaments they ſerved in:

4 Ed. II. parl. at Weſt. Adam le Templer, John de Cruce
5 Ed. II. parl. at Lond. Roger le Cauterer, John Tuill
6 Ed. II. parl. at Weſtm. John Toly, John atte Crouch
26 Ed. III. The names of theſe burgeſſes do not anywhere appear
47 Ed. III. parl. at Weſt. High Taverner, John Haveryng

making but five returns in all, and none ſince.

Now

Now had ſuch a petition been preſented to be freed from that burthen, ſome trace of it, I ſhould think, muſt have been met with; and if an entire copy had not been preſerved, yet minutes at leaſt would have been regiſtered. Beſides, ſo accurate an obſerver as Prynne generally was, would hardly have ſuffered this circumſtance to have eſcaped his notice; and he only mentions it as among thoſe many places which were obliged to make returns at one time, and were excuſed at another, merely at the caprice of the ſheriff. There are ſeveral other * authors too, and particularly *Willis*, who take notice of this place having formerly ſent members, but ſtate merely that the privilege is now loſt, without ſaying a word of any petition; which, had there really been any ſuch, it is more than likely that ſome one of them would have been acquainted with.

The only grounds upon which ſuch a petition could ever have been preſented, muſt have been on account of their poverty and inability to pay their burgeſſes, and becauſe they were unjuſtly compelled to make a return. Now, with regard to the firſt part of the allegation, the truth would

* See Magna Britannia—Camden's Britannia—Hiſtory of Surry — Curioſities of Great Britain — A Tour through England.

be

be at variance with the aſſertion, and the plea of poverty could not be ſuſtained by the fact; for Kingſton was always a place of ſufficient wealth to have afforded the expences of its burgeſſes with much more eaſe than many other places which paid them from the firſt, without the leaſt complaint. Indeed, from every former account, it appears that it has much fallen from its original conſequence; and that its trade has diminiſhed as well as its markets dwindled away,* compared with what they formerly were. This being the caſe then, what room is there to pretend that it was not equally able to have ſupported its burgeſſes expences with Guildford, Downton, Wilton, the Devizes, Old Sarum, Calne, Chippenham, and many others, who with much more propriety might have pleaded their poverty in excuſe?

Such a report, notwithſtanding, has certainly been credited about Kingſton, that it had ceaſed to ſend members, in conſequence of a petition, praying to be exempt from that burthen, which it was not able to ſupport. But how, or from what ſuch a report ever aroſe, is more than I could ever learn. With all the enquiry I could make, I have never been able to meet with any one who had ſeen ſuch a petition, or any written account or trace of it, though many who pretend

* Magna Britannia—Hiſtory of Surry.

to have heard of it: for which reaſon I am the more ſtrongly induced to believe *hearſay* evidence to be the only authority that can be adduced in ſupport of it.

The following Anecdotes are added, as being unnoticed by former Writers.

"Anno Domini milleſimo 445, et anno regis Henry V^ti. 23, in vigilia purificacionis, combuſta eſt magna pars campanilis de Kyngeſton et unus in eccleſia ex timore viſus ſpiritus mortuus."

'In the year of our Lord 1445, and in the 23d year of King Henry the Fifth, on the eve of the Purification, a great part of the belfrey of Kyngeſton was burnt; and a perſon died in the church, through fear of a ſpirit which he ſaw there.'

"In primo die menſis Octobris, anno Domini 1467, et anno Regis Edwardi quarti ſeptimo, Rex tenuit magnum conſilium cum Dominis apud Kyngiſtone ſuper Thameſiam, ubi Domina Margareta, ſoror regis E. in præſencia Domi-

Dominorum agreavit ſe ad concludendum matrimonium cum Domino Karolo Duce Burgundiæ. Comes Warwici non fuit ibidem, ſed in partibus borialibus."

'On the firſt day of the month of October, in the year of our Lord 1467, and in the ſeventh year of King Edward the IVth, the King held a great council with the Lords at Kingſton upon Thames, where the Lady Margaret, ſiſter of King Edward, agreed to conclude a marriage with Lord Charles, Duke of Burgundy. The Earl of Warwick was not there, being in the north.'

Wilhelmi Wyrceſter Annales rerum Anglicarum.

Kingſton upon Thames, 1696.

Mercurii, 24° die Feb. 9 Gul. 3ti.

A petition of the bailiffs, lords of the manor, and tenants of the ſame, and other the freemen and inhabitants of Kingſton upon Thames, in the county of Surrey, was preſented to the houſe and read; ſetting forth, That the poor of the ſaid town daily increaſe, and are become very burdenſome to the inhabitants: that there are large commons belonging to the ſaid town, clear of timber, and of little uſe; which if improved by ſowing flax, hemp, &c. would employ their poor, and eaſe the inhabitants, who

are willing to build conveniences for teaching and employing the poor, and their children; which may not only be a comfortable ſubſiſtence to themſelves, but an advantage to the nation: and praying leave to bring in a bill, empowering them to encloſe as much of their commons as they, from time to time, ſhall find cauſe to employ for the uſes of their poor; and that ſuch encloſures may be exempted from all taxes and tythes.

Ordered, That leave be given to bring in a bill to incloſe the ſaid commons, tythe free for ſome time, and to ſet the poor on work; and that Sir Richard Onſlow do prepare and bring in the bill. *Journals of the Houſe of Commons.*

But it was never preſented.

A ſimilar idea was agitated, as I am informed, about twenty or thirty years ago, but never acted upon.

CHARTERS

CHARTERS

OF

KINGSTON UPON THAMES.

CHARTER OF KING JOHN.

Grant of the Town of Kingſton to the Freemen of the Town.

JOHN, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, Count of Andegavenny. To all Archbiſhops, Biſhops, Abbots, Earls, Barons, Juſtices, Sheriffs, Provoſts, and all Bailiffs and faithful ſubjects, greeting. Know ye That we have given, granted, and by this our preſent Charter confirmed to our Freemen of Kyngeſton, our town of Kyngeſton, with all its appurtenances in feefarm, to have and to hold to them and their heirs of us and our heirs, in their hand for ever entirely,

with all the liberties and free cuſtoms which the ſame town was accuſtomed and ought to have at the time in which it was in our hand, yielding thence to our Exchequer by their hand yearly fifty pounds of ſilver; that is to ſay, half at the Eaſter Exchequer, and half at the Michaelmas Exchequer; of which fifty pounds they ſhall pay twenty-eight pounds and ten ſhillings blank, which was the ancient rent; and the reſidue they ſhall pay in tale. And we will not that the ſheriff or his bailiffs in anywiſe intermeddle with the aforeſaid town or its appurtenances, or with the aforeſaid rent, except thoſe things which belong to the royal crown: wherefore we will and firmly command, That the aforeſaid men of Kingeſton, and their heirs, may have and hold in feefarm the aforeſaid town of Kingeſton, with all its appurtenances, for ever, well and peaceably, free and quietly, entirely, fully, and honourably in all places and things, with all the liberties and free cuſtoms belonging to it, as is above mentioned, as long as they ſhall well pay the aforeſaid rent.

Witneſs Lord P. Biſhop of Wincheſter, Lord J. Biſhop of Bath, William Earl of Devon-

Devonſhire, William Brivoerr, Hugo de Nevill, Garin, the ſon of Gerola, William Malet, Thomas Baſſet, Ralf Gernun, Geoffrey Luterel.

Given under the hand of Hugo de Well, Archdeacon of Wells, at Tanton, the 23d day of September, in the tenth year of our reign.

CHARTER OF HENRY III.

Privilege from Arreſts.

HENRY, by the Grace of God, King, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, and Count of Andegavenny. To all Archbiſhops, Biſhops, Abbots, Priors, Counts, Barons, Juſtices, Sheriffs, Provoſts, Miniſters, and all Bailiffs and faithful ſubjects, greeting. Know ye That we have granted, and by this our charter have confirmed to our freemen of Kingſton, that they and their heirs for ever, throughout all our land and power, may have this liberty; that is to ſay, that they or their goods found in any places whatſoever in our power, ſhall not be ar-

reſted for any debt of which they are not the ſureties or principal debtors, unleſs by chance thoſe debtors be of their own community and power, having wherewith they are able, in the whole or in part, to make ſatisfaction, and our ſaid freemen are wanting in juſtice to the creditors of the ſame debtors, and this ſhall reaſonably be made to appear. Wherefore we will and firmly command for us and our heirs, that our aforeſaid freemen of Kingeſton, and their heirs, may have the aforeſaid liberty for ever throughout all our land and power as is aforeſaid. And we forbid, upon the forfeiture to us of ten pounds, that any one of them be in anywiſe unjuſtly vexed, diſturbed, or diſquieted againſt the liberty aforeſaid.

Witneſs Guy de Leziman, Geoffrey de Leziman, and William de Valentia, our brothers; John Maunſell, Provoſt of Beverley; Archibald de Sto. Romano, Walter de Merton, William de Grey, William de Hatintot, Barthol. Bygoe, and others.

Given under our hand at Weſtminſter, the 10th day of December, in the fortieth year of our reign.

CHARTER OF HENRY III.

Grant of an Eight Days Fair.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, and Count of Andegavenny. To all Archbiſhops, Biſhops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Juſtices, Sheriffs, Provoſts, Miniſters, and all Bailiffs and faithful ſubjects, greeting. Know ye That we have granted, and by this our charter have confirmed to our freemen of Kyngeſton, that they and their heirs for ever may have a Fair every year, to continue during eight days, at Kyngeſton; that is to ſay, on the morrow of All Souls, and during the ſeven following days, unleſs that fair ſhould be to the hurt of the neighbouring fairs. Wherefore we will and firmly command for us and our heirs, that our aforeſaid freemen of Kyngeſton, and their heirs for ever, may have a fair at Kyngeſton every year, to continue during eight days; that is to ſay, on the morrow of All Souls, and during the ſeven following days; with all the liberties and free cuſ-

cuſtoms belonging to ſuch like fair, unleſs that fair ſhould be to the hurt of the neighbouring fairs, as is aforeſaid.

Witneſs Guy de Lerign, Geoffrey de Lerign, and William de Valentia, our brothers; John Manſell, Treaſurer of Yorkſhire; Robert Walerane, Geoffrey de Geynvill, William de Grey, Walter de Merton, Maſter John Manſell, Imbto Pugeys, William de S^{ta}. Ermina, and others.

Given under our hand at Weſtminſter, the 12th day of September, in the fortieth year of our reign.

CHARTER OF HENRY III.

Grant of the Return of Writs, &c.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England, Lord of Ireland, Duke of Normandy and Aquitain, and Count of Andegavenny. To all Archbiſhops, Biſhops, Abbots, Priors, Earls, Barons, Juſtices, Sheriffs, Provoſts, Miniſters, and all Bailiffs and faithful ſubjects, greeting. Know ye That we have granted, and by this our charter have confirmed, for us and our heirs,

heirs, to our freemen of Kyngeſton, that they and their heirs for ever may have the return of our writs from the ſummonſes of our Exchequer, and all other our writs touching their town, ſo that no ſheriff, or other our bailiff or miniſter, may enter the town aforeſaid to make diſtreſſes or ſummonſes, or any other things, unleſs through default of the ſame men or their heirs. We have alſo granted to the ſame men, that they and their heirs (men of the ſame town) may chooſe from themſelves and create coroners to make attachment of the pleas of our crown, ariſing within our town aforeſaid, and anſwer before our juſtices itinerant in thoſe parts of the attachments made by them, and other things pertaining to the office of coroner, as other our coroners ought and are wont to anſwer; and that the aforeſaid men, without our precept, be not impleaded or compelled to plead without their town, of any their tenements or chattels which they have within their town, or of any other pleas except treſpaſſes, if it ſhall happen that any have been committed by them againſt us or our heirs. We have alſo granted to the ſame men of Kyngeſton,

that

that they may have their guild-merchant in their town, as they formerly had it, and as our men of Guildford had; and that they may uſe it together with their other liberties and juſt laws and cuſtoms which they have in their town aforeſaid, as they have uſed it in our time, and in the times of our predeceſſors, Kings of England: And that the ſame men, for the treſpaſs or forfeiture of their ſervants, ſhall not loſe their chattels or goods found in their hands, or put to any other place by thoſe ſervants, as far as they ſhall be able ſufficiently to prove that they are their own: And alſo, if the ſaid men, or any of them, ſhall die teſtate or inteſtate within our land and power, we nor our heirs will not cauſe their goods to be confiſcated: but their heirs may have them entirely, as far as it appears that the ſaid chattels belonged to the ſaid deceaſed. Wherefore we will and firmly command for us and our heirs, that our aforeſaid freemen of Kyngeſton, and their heirs for ever, may have all the liberties and freedoms aforeſaid; and that they may uſe them henceforth for ever, freely and without the hindrance of any one, as is aforeſaid.

ſaid. And we forbid, upon the forfeiture to us of ten pounds, that no one preſume to vex, moleſt, or diſquiet them againſt the before written grants and liberties.

Witneſs Guy de Lerign, Geoffrey de Lerign, and William de Valentia, our brothers; John Maunſell, Treaſurer of York; Archibald de S^to^. Romano, Robt. Walerane, Will. de Grey, Walter de Merton, Imbto Pugeys, Will. Bonquer, Will. de S^ta^. Ermina, and others.

Given under our hand at Weſtminſter, the 13th day of September, in the fortieth year of our reign.

This laſt charter is confirmed by another of Edward the Third, dated the 31ſt day of January, in the 16th year of his reign over England, and third over France.

King Richard II. by a charter dated the 2d of April, in the firſt year of his reign, alſo confirms the above charter of King John, and the charter of King Edward III. for the return of writs.

CHARTER OF RICHARD II.

Grant of a Shop and Eight Acres of Land, in aid of the Payment of the feefarm Rent of the Town.

RICHARD, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland. To all to whom theſe preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. Know ye That we, of our ſpecial favour, have granted for us and our heirs as much as in us is to our beloved freemen of our town of Kyngeſton upon Thames, which town aforeſaid they hold of us for a certain feefarm of fifty-four pounds eight ſhillings and ſixpence, paid yearly to our Exchequer; as they ſay, a ſhop and eight acres of land, with the appurtenances in the town aforeſaid, which belonged to Robert Heggeman, who held them of us (and which ſhop and land came to our hands as our eſcheat, as we have taken it becauſe the aforeſaid Robert died without an heir): to have and to hold to the ſaid freemen and their ſucceſſors of us and our heirs, by the ſervices therefore due and accuſtomed

tomed in the time of the aforeſaid Robert, in aid of the payment of their aforeſaid rent for ever, without any thing to be paid to us or our heirs for the ſhop and land aforeſaid, beyond the ſaid feefarm

In witneſs whereof we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, the 20th day of May, in the fourth year of our reign. By Writ of Privy Seal.

Henry IV. by a charter dated the 29th day of May, in the firſt year of his reign, confirms the above charter of King John, and the charter of King Edward III. for the return of writs.

Exemplification of a Trial in the Exchequer with the Sheriff of the County, Whether the Freemen of Kingſton ought to pay Knights Fees? — Adjudged they ought not.

8 HEN. IV.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland.

To

To all to whom theſe preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. We have inſpected a certain plea of the term of St. Michael, in the ſecond year of the reign of King Richard the Second, after the Conqueſt, in theſe words: *ſs.* Pleas before the Barons of the Exchequer at Weſtminſter, of the term of St. Michael, in the ſecond year of King Richard the Second, after the Conqueſt, *ſs.* Surry *ſs.* Robert Campe, Bailiff of the liberty of the Archbiſhop of Canterbury, of Croydon, and Thomas Carpenter, Bailiff of the liberty of Kyngeſton and Emelbrigg, were attached, being here now on the octave of St. Martin, to anſwer the King and William Percy, ſheriff of the county of Surry. Wherefore when the Lord King, by his writ of the Chancery, commanded the aforeſaid William Percy that he ſhould cauſe to have of the men of the county aforeſaid to Nicholas Carren and John Kyngesfold, late Knights elected to the parliament held at Weſtminſter, in the firſt year of his reign, for the commonalty of the county aforeſaid, a certain ſum of money for their expences, to be levied of the men of the ſame town, as well within the liberties as out, the ſaid William Percy

ſays,

ſays, that although he made divers precepts to the aforeſaid Robert Campe and Thomas Carpenter for the portions belonging to the ſeveral men of their bailiwick for the expences aforeſaid; that is to ſay, to the aforeſaid Robert Campe for twenty-three ſhillings for his portion; and to the aforeſaid Thomas Carpenter, for four marks for his portion, at the county-court, held on Wedneſday next, before the feaſt of Epiphany in the ſame year of the Lord at Gildeford, he delivered to be levied; yet the aforeſaid Robert and Thomas have refuſed, and ſtill do refuſe, to return their precepts aforeſaid, or levy the ſums aforeſaid to the aforeſaid William Percy, through which the ſame William paid the expences of the ſame Knights to the aforeſaid Knights at Gildeford, the ſame year, on account of the default of the aforeſaid bailiffs, in contempt of the King. Wherefore the aforeſaid William Percy is impoveriſhed, and has a loſs to the value of twenty pounds, and therefore he produces ſuit, &c. And the aforeſaid Robert Campe and Thomas Carpenter came at the octave aforeſaid, by Robert Carpenter their attorney, and defend the

loſs and whatſoever, &c. And they ſay that the expences aforeſaid ought not to be levied in any manner, although the expences of Knights coming to the parliament of the King for the commonalty of the county aforeſaid have been levied, and before theſe times, have been accuſtomed to be levied. And they ſay that it has never been the cuſtom to levy any ſums within the liberties aforeſaid for the expences of ſuch like Knights coming to parliament. And this they are ready to verify; and they aſk judgment if any injury can be aſſigned againſt their perſons for that reaſon. And the aforeſaid William Percy ſays, that Knights were lately elected in the full county-court by all the commonalty of the county aforeſaid, as well for thoſe within the liberties as out; by which all men dwelling within the aforeſaid county, as well within the liberties as out, are held by right to contribute to the payment of their expences; and from which the aforeſaid late Knights were elected by the commonalty aforeſaid, as, &c. And they do not deny but their bailiwicks were aſſeſſed ſeparately in the full county-court, as is above declared.

And

And the aforeſaid bailiffs allege nothing elſe for themſelves unleſs this, that it has not been the cuſtom before theſe times for any ſums to be levied for the expences of Knights within the liberties aforeſaid. The ſaid William Percy aſks judgment, &c. and that the aforeſaid bailiffs may pay their portions aforeſaid: and the aforeſaid bailiffs ſay as before, and aſk judgment likewiſe. Therefore to judgment. And upon this a day was given to the parties aforeſaid, from the day of St. Hilary, in forty days to hear their judgment aforeſaid: at which day the parties aforeſaid came, and have a day farther until the fifteenth of Eaſter; at which day the parties aforeſaid came, and have a day further until the fifteenth of the holy Trinity; at which day the parties aforeſaid came, and aſk their judgment, &c. and having ſeen that proceſs among the Barons, becauſe the aforeſaid William Percy by the laſt pleading does not deny this, that he was not accuſtomed before theſe times to levy any ſums for the expences of Knights coming to the parliaments of the King within the liberties aforeſaid. Therefore it was conſidered that the afore-

ſaid William Percy ſhould take nothing for his complaint aforeſaid; and that the aforeſaid Robert Campe and Thomas Carpenter, bailiffs of the liberties aforeſaid, ſhould be in the premiſes *ſine die.* Now we have cauſed the plea aforeſaid to be exemplified by theſe preſents, at the requiſition of John Pierg and John Lorthoim, now bailiffs of the liberties aforeſaid.

In witneſs whereof, we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs, I. Cokayn.

At Weſtminſter, the 1ſt day of March, in the eighth year of our reign. Hunt.

CHARTER OF HENRY V.

Confirmation of former Charters, and a Releaſe of Twenty-four Pounds annually, being Part of the Feefarm Rent.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland. To all Archbiſhops, Biſhops, Abbots, Priors, Dukes, Earls, Barons, Juſtices, Sheriffs, Provoſts, Miniſters, and all Bailiffs and faithful ſubjects, greeting. (It then recites

recites the charter of King John, of King Henry III. for the return of writs, &c. for the protection of goods and perſons, and for the eight days fair; all which it confirms, and then proceeds as follows) Moreover, willing to favour the ſaid freemen in this behalf of our bountiful ſpecial favour, we have granted for us and our heirs, and by this our charter confirm to the ſame freemen of the town of Kyngeſton aforeſaid, that although they or their anteceſſors or predeceſſors ſhall not hitherto have fully uſed any one or any of the gifts, grants, confirmations, liberties, and acquittances aforeſaid, or any others in the aforeſaid charters and letters contained in any caſe happening, yet the ſame freemen, and their heirs and ſucceſſors, ſhall fully enjoy and uſe them, and every of them, from henceforth for ever, without the hindrance or impediment of us or our heirs, or of the juſtices, eſcheators, ſheriffs, or other bailiffs or ſervants of us or our ſaid heirs whomſoever. And further, of our bountiful favour, we have granted to the aforeſaid freemen of the ſaid town of Kyngeſton, and their heirs and ſucceſſors, the town aforeſaid, with

all the liberties and freedoms and other things abovementioned for ever, yielding to us and our heirs aforeſaid, by the year, at the terms of Eaſter and St. Michael, *twenty and ſix pounds* only of the aforeſaid ſum of fifty pounds. And moreover we have pardoned, releaſed, and quit-claimed for us and our ſaid heirs to the aforeſaid freemen, their heirs and ſucceſſors for ever, *twenty and four pounds* yearly reſidue of the aforeſaid ſum of fifty pounds, and have held them exonerated for ever by theſe preſents from the ſaid twenty-four pounds yearly. Witneſs the venerable fathers, Th. Archbiſhop of Canterbury, Primate of All England, our couſin; H. Biſhop of Wincheſter, our very dear uncle; our Chancellor, Th. Biſhop of Durham; N. Biſhop of Bath and Wells; and H. Biſhop of St. David; our very dear couſins Thos. Earl of Arundell, our Treaſurer, and Ric. Earl of Warwick; Henry Ffitzhugh, our Chamberlain; and Tho. de Erpyngham, Steward of our Houſehold; Maſter John Prophetes, keeper of our great ſeal, and others.

Given under our hand at Weſtminſter, the

the 21ſt day of November, in the firſt year of our reign.

By the King himſelf, and by writ of Privy Seal. Gaunſtede.

---

24 HENRY VI.

Exemplification of a Certificate from the Chamberlain of the Exchequer out of the Doomeſday Book, that the Demeſne of Kingſton and Elmbridge is of the ancient Demeſne of the Crown.

HENRY, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland. To all to whom theſe preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. We have inſpected a certain certificate ſent to us in our Chancery, by our Treaſurer and Chamberlain, by our command, in theſe words: Henry, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, to his Treaſurer and Chamberlain, greeting. We, willing for certain reaſons to be ſure if the demeſne of Chingeſtune and Amelebrige, in the county of Surry, be

of the ancient demeſne of the Crown of our realm of England, command you that, having ſearched our book of Domeſday, which is in our treaſury, under your cuſtody, as it is called, ye acquaint us in our Chancery, under the ſeal of our Exchequer, diſtinctly and openly without delay, of what ye ſhall find therein, and ſend us back this writ. Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, the 8th day of July, in the 24th year of our reign. But what we find in the book of Doomeſday, touching the demeſne of Chingeſtune and Amelebrige in the county of Surry, we ſend you in the ſchedule faſtened to this writ. In the book of Domeſday, under the title of the King's Land, in the county of Surry, among other things, is contained thus: the King holds Chingeſtune in demeſne by the rent that was King Edward's, who then defended it by thirty-nine hides*;

* A hide of land, or a ploughland, which is the ſame, in an old manuſcript, is ſaid to be one hundred and twenty acres. Sir Edward Coke holds, that it does not define any certain number of acres. According to Shene, it contains as great a portion of land as may be tilled and laboured by one plough in a year and day.

now

now it is accounted as nothing of thirty-two ploughlands in demeſne; there are two ploughlands and a quarter of twenty, and ſix villains and fourteen borderirs †, with twenty-five ploughlands; there is a church there and two bondmen and five mills of twenty ſhillings, and two fiſheries of ten ſhillings, and a third fiſhery extremely good; but without account there are forty acres of meadow, woods for ſix pochers in the time of King Edward, and afterwards; and now valued at thirty pounds. Of the villains of this town, Humphry the Chamberlain had and ſtill hath one villain in cuſtody for combing the Queen's wool; of him alſo he accepted twenty ſhillings for a relief when his father was dead. In Amelebrige, Alda, a

† Borderers or Bordmen, Bordarii, were a ſpecies of bondmen or ſervile tenants, differing in ſome degree from the Servi and Villani. Dicuntur Bordarii vel quod in tugurus (quæ cottagia vocant) habitabant, ſeu villarum limitibus, quaſi Borderers. *Spelm.* They ſeem to have derived their name from the Saxon word *bord*, a houſe; and were of a leſs ſervile condition than the Servi or Villani, having a *bord* or cottage, with a ſmall parcel of land allowed them, on condition of ſupplying their lord with certain proviſions for his board or table.

certain

certain woman, holds of the King one *fallow ground* of the value of three ſhillings. Now we have cauſed the tenor of the certificate aforeſaid to be exemplified by theſe preſents, at the requeſt of the men and tenants of Kyngeſton upon Thames and Amelebrige. In witneſs whereof, we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, ‡ the 17th day of July, in the twenty-fourth year of our reign. Brigge.

Henry VI. by a charter dated the 2nd day of February, in the twenty-ſeventh year of his reign, granted to the bailiffs of Kingſton the cuſtody of the bridge and a toll, for divers goods and merchandizes coming through or under the ſame to the town of Kingſton, for the ſpace of fifty-one years, towards the repair and maintenance of the ſaid bridge.

‡ The original of this is miſſing.

There

There is alſo a protection granted by one of the Henrys, in a charter dated the 14th of January, in the firſt of his reign, to the freemen of Kingſton, their perſons, goods, and eſtates for one year.

CHARTER OF EDWARD IV.

Confirmation of former Charters, and Grant of new Privileges.

EDWARD, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland. To all Archbiſhops, Biſhops, Abbots, Priors, Dukes, Earls, Barons, Juſtices, Sheriffs, Provoſts, Miniſters, and all Bailiffs and faithful ſubjects, greeting.

Whereas John, lately King of England, our progenitor, by his letters patent, bearing date the 23d day of September, in the tenth year of his reign, granted to his freemen of Kyngeſton, his town of Kyngeſton, with all its appurtenances in feefarm, to have and to hold to them and their heirs, of him the late King, and his heirs, in their own

own hands for ever entirely, together with all the liberties and free cuſtoms which the ſaid town was accuſtomed and ought to have at the time when it was in the hand of the late King, paying therefore at his exchequer by their hand, yearly, fifty pounds of ſilver; that is to ſay, half at the Eaſter exchequer, and half at the Michaelmas exchequer; of which fifty pounds, they were to pay twenty-eight pounds and ten ſhillings blank, which was the old rent; and the reſidue they were to pay in tale: and the ſaid late King willed that neither the ſheriff nor his bailiffs ſhould in anywiſe intermeddle with the aforeſaid town or its appurtenances, or the aforeſaid rent, excepting thoſe matters which related to the Royal Crown. Wherefore the ſaid late King willed and firmly commanded, that the ſaid freemen of Kyngeſton, and their heirs, ſhould have and hold in feefarm the aforeſaid town of Kyngeſton, with all its appurtenances for ever, well, peaceably, freely, quietly, entirely, fully, and honourably in all places and things, with all their liberties and free cuſtoms belonging to the ſame, as in thoſe letters are more fully contained.

And

And whereas alſo Lord Henry III. lately King of England, our progenitor, by his letters patent, bearing date the 3d day of September, in the fortieth year of his reign, granted and confirmed, for himſelf and his heirs, to his freemen of Kyngeſton aforeſaid, that they and their heirs ſhould for ever have the return of his writs from the ſummons of his exchequer, and all other writs touching their town, ſo that no ſheriff or other bailiff, or his ſervant, ſhould enter the aforeſaid town to diſtrain, ſummons, or do any thing elſe but for default of the ſame men or their heirs. And the ſaid late King granted to the ſaid men, that they and their heirs, being men of the ſaid town, ſhould chuſe from themſelves, and create coroners to hold pleas of the crown, ariſing and to be within the ſaid town, and ſhould anſwer before his juſtices itinerant in thoſe parts of the attachments made by them, and of other matters belonging to the office of coroner, as his other coroners were accuſtomed and of right ought to anſwer. And that the aforeſaid men, without the command of the late King Henry, ſhould not implead or be compelled to plead without their town,

town, of any of their tenements or chattels which they had within their town, or of any other pleas, except of treſpaſs, if any had been committed by them againſt the late King Henry or his heirs. He alſo granted to the ſame men of Kyngeſton, that they ſhould have their gild-merchant in their town, and in the ſame manner as the late King's freemen of Guildford had; and that they ſhould enjoy it, together with all the liberties and juſt laws and cuſtoms which they had in their aforeſaid town, in the ſame manner as they had been accuſtomed in the time of the ſaid late King Henry, and in the times of his predeceſſors, Kings of England; and that the ſaid freemen, for the treſpaſſes or forfeitures of their ſervants, ſhould not loſe their goods and chattels found in their hands, or placed by thoſe ſervants anywhere elſe, ſo far as they could make out ſufficient proof of their being their own property. And alſo, if the ſaid men, or any of them, ſhould die teſtate or inteſtate within the dominions and power of the ſaid late King Henry, he the ſaid late King Henry, nor his heirs, would not confiſcate their effects; but their kins ſhould have

have entire poſſeſſion of them, as far as it ſhould appear that they were the very chattels of thoſe who were deceaſed; yet ſo as there be ſufficient knowledge or ſurety of the ſaid heirs. Wherefore the ſaid Lord Henry the late King, willed and firmly commanded, for himſelf and his heirs, that his ſaid freemen of Kyngeſton, and their heirs, ſhould for ever have all the liberties and freedoms aforeſaid, and that they ſhould uſe them freely and without the hindrance of any one for ever thenceforth, as is aforeſaid, and in thoſe letters patent is more fully contained.

And whereas Henry V. lately King of England, in fact, and not by right, by his letters patent, dated the * 1ſt day of March, in the eighth year of his reign, among other things, granted to the aforeſaid freemen of the ſaid town of Kyngeſton, and their heirs and ſucceſſors, the ſaid town, together with all the aforeſaid liberties and freedoms for ever, paying to him the

* The date of this charter is incorrectly recited: it ſhould be the 21ſt day of November, in the firſt year of his reign.

late

late King and his heirs, at the yearly terms of Eaſter and Michaelmas, twenty-ſix pounds only of the aforeſaid ſum of forty pounds: and moreover he pardoned, releaſed, and quit-claimed for himſelf the late King and his ſaid heirs to the aforeſaid freemen, their heirs and ſucceſſors for ever, the annual twenty-four pounds reſidue of the aforeſaid ſum of fifty pounds; and held them exonerated from the ſaid annual twenty-four pounds, as in thoſe letters is more fully contained.

And whereas, moreover, Henry VI. lately King of England, in fact and not of right, by his * letters patent, dated the 18th day of March, in the nineteenth year of his reign, among other things, granted to the aforeſaid freemen, their heirs and ſucceſſors, that the clerk of his market from thenceforth ſhould not follow or exerciſe, or cauſe to be purſued, followed, or exerciſed in any mode, his office within the ſaid town of Kyngeſton, or the liberty of the ſame town, but that the ſame freemen of the ſame town, and

* This charter, I ſuppoſe, is loſt, as it is not to be found among the others.

their

their ſucceſſors ſhould have the correction of the aſſize of bread and beer to be made or done within the aforeſaid town, and the liberty of the ſame. And alſo that they ſhould have the occupation and exerciſe of all other things in anywiſe touching the office of the clerk of the market, together with the fines, iſſues, and amerciaments, as fully as the town of Wycombe and Wyndeſore, or any other borough within the kingdom of England at that time had, as in thoſe letters is more fully contained. Now we all the gifts, grants, liberties, franchiſes, pardon, remiſſion, quit-claim, and diſcharge aforeſaid, having ratified, and freely the ſame for ourſelves and our heirs do accept, ratify, approve, and confirm as far as is in our power, and grant and confirm them to the aforeſaid men and their heirs. And although they or their progenitors or predeceſſors ſhould not as yet have fully enjoyed or abuſed any of the gifts, grants, or confirmations of liberties and freedoms, or any thing elſe contained in the ſaid letters and charters, yet the ſaid freemen, and their heirs and ſucceſ-

 ſors,

ſors, ſhall enjoy and uſe the ſame and every part thereof, from thenceforth fully for ever, without the hindrance or impediment of us or our heirs. And further: Whereas the ſaid men were accuſtomed and their progenitors and predeceſſors, by virtue of the ſaid letters or charter of the ſaid King John, our progenitor, from the time of the making the ſame letters patent, had and were accuſtomed to have and enjoy within the ſaid town, and the liberty of the ſame, a certain court on every Saturday, before the bailiffs and ſteward of the aforeſaid town for the time being, to be held in the ſaid town, and power of hearing and determining all pleas of debt, covenant, account, treſpaſs, and other contracts and perſonal matters, of whatſoever ſort, ſupported or defended by plaint in that court in ſuch like pleas by their attachment and arreſt of their bodies on account of their inſufficiency by the like determination, proceſs, and decrees, and execution of the judges, by whom actions of this ſort at common law are accuſtomed to be determined and ſettled; and

and alſo had within the town and liberty aforeſaid, the demeſne of the ſaid town and hundred of * Kyngeſton and Emelbrigge, which (from time whereof the memory of man is not) have been appertaining to the ſaid town all kinds of eſcheats and forfeitures of lands and tenements, goods and chattels, treaſure, trove, deodands, goods and chattels called Maynour, chattels of felons, felons of themſelves, condemned, convicted, attainted, outlawed, or baniſhed; waifs, and perſons put in exigent for felony, year, day, waſte, and eſtrepement; and alſo all iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, and puniſhments of all men reſiding and not reſiding within the town and liberty, demeſne, and hundred aforeſaid, before the ſteward and marſhal of the houſehold of us, our progenitors, and predeceſſors, and before the

* Kingſton Hundred contains Kingſton, Eaſt Moleſey, Long Ditton, Malden, Peterſham, Richmond, and Talworth.

Emelbrigge, or Emley Hundred, contains Cobham, Eſher, Eſher Waterville, Eaſt and Weſt Moleſey, Oatlands, Stoke, Dalborn, Walton, and Weybridge.

juſtices of us, our progenitors, and predeceſſors aſſigned for the peace in the county of Surrie; and forfeitures for any offences, treſpaſſes, or any other cauſes whatſoever within the town, liberty, demeſne, and hundred ariſing or happening until now lately, becauſe the ſame men, through the means of ſome of the officers belonging to us and ſome of our predeceſſors in the county aforeſaid, were hindered and interrupted from ſome of the ſame, and perplexed on account of the obſcurity and ambiguity of the general words in the ſaid grant of the ſaid King John, our progenitor, ſpecified to the no ſmall loſs and prejudice of thoſe men; we conſidering how much the inhabitants of the aforeſaid town of Kyngeſton, by the payment of the feefarm of that town, and by the great violent inundations and overflow of the waters, lately ſuffered in that town, and other burthens oppreſſing the ſaid town, are injured, deteriorated, and ſo much impoveriſhed, that they cannot pay that rent to us and our heirs, and bear the other burthens which lie heavy on the ſaid town; nor will in future be able, unleſs

unleſs through our favour ſhewn them in this matter, as we have it from the information of thoſe men. We, willing that thoſe men and their ſucceſſors ſhould fully and quietly have, uſe, and enjoy all the premiſſes, and that every ſuch like ambiguity and obſcurity of words and terms in the aforeſaid grants contained ſhould be entirely done out and made void, and further to act graciouſly with theſe men, of our ſpecial favour and certain knowledge, do give, grant, and confirm for ourſelves and our heirs, by theſe preſents, to the freemen of the town of Kyngeſton aforeſaid, that they be one body in deed and name, and one perpetual corporation of two bailiffs of that town, and the freemen of the ſame town; and that they have a perpetual ſucceſſion, and that they and their ſucceſſors, by the names of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the town of Kyngeſton upon Thames, in the county of Surry, be named and called, and by thoſe names implead and be impleaded, anſwer and be anſwered, in all the courts of us and our heirs, and all others whatſoever. *And* that

the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of that town and their ſucceſſors, be perſons fit and capable in the law to purchaſe lands and tenements to themſelves and their ſucceſſors, in fee and perpetuity; *and* have a common ſeal to ſerve for the things and buſineſs touching and concerning thoſe bailiffs and men.

And from time to time, for the wholeſome regulation and government of that town, do make and ordain within that town ordinances and ſtatutes. And further, we give, grant, and confirm, for us and our heirs, to the ſaid bailiffs and men, their heirs and ſucceſſors, that they ſhall have, within the town, liberty, demeſne, and hundred aforeſaid, and all parts of the ſame, all kinds of eſcheats and forfeitures of lands and tenements, treaſure, trove, deodands, and all and all kinds of goods and chattels, called Maynour, and the goods and chattels of all men entirely holding and not entirely holding, reſiding and not reſiding within the aforeſaid town and demeſne of Kyngeſton and the hundred, and the parts and appurtenances of the ſame, felons, fugitives,

tives, felons of themſelves, condemned, or for any cauſe convicted, attainted, outlawed, baniſhed, waived, and put in exigent for felony; chattels confiſcated and to be confiſcated of all ſuch like men holding, reſiding, and not reſiding; eſcapes of felons; alſo year, day, waſte, and eſtrepement within the ſame town, its parts and appurtenances, and every thing which pertains or can pertain to us or our heirs, of ſuch like year, day, waſte, and eſtrepement, or of any others or other of the premiſes. And alſo all and all kinds of iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures of all ſuch like men holding, reſiding, and not reſiding, or by any of them in the courts of us and our heirs, as well before the juſtices of us and our heirs aſſigned to keep the peace in the county of Surry, and to hear and determine all felonies and treſpaſſes committed in that county, as before the other juſtices or commiſſioners whatſoever, of us and our heirs in that county, and before the ſteward and marſhal of the houſehold of us and our heirs, to be forfeited, loſt, impoſed, made, undergone, affeered, or taxed in any mode;

ſo that if any of the ſaid men holding, reſiding, and not reſiding, ſhall have committed any crime, or fled and would not ſtand in judgment, for which he ought to loſe life or limb, or goods and chattels, whereſoever juſtice ought to be done of him; or it ſhould happen that any one of ſuch like men holding, reſiding, and not reſiding, ſhould in the aforeſaid courts, or any of them, forfeit, loſe, make, or undergo iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures, all the aforeſaid goods and chattels, eſcheats, forfeitures, iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures, ſhall belong to the ſaid bailiffs and men of the ſaid town of Kyngeſton, and their ſucceſſors. And that it be permitted the ſaid bailiffs and men and their ſucceſſors, by themſelves and their ſervants, all ſuch like eſcheats, forfeitures, treaſure, trove, deodands, goods, and chattels, iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures, to take, ſeize, levy, receive, and have for their own uſe, and to take poſſeſſion thereof, although ſuch like goods and chattels ſhould have been before taken,

taken, ſeized, or uſed by any of the officers or ſervants of us or our heirs, *to have* to the ſaid bailiffs and men, and their ſucceſſors, in aid of their aforeſaid rent without the impeachment, diſturbance, moleſtation, or impediment of us or our heirs, or the juſtices, ſheriffs, eſcheators, coroners, or any other officers or ſervants of us and our heirs whatſoever. *And* moreover we give and grant to the ſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, that they may have and hold within the town of Kyngeſton aforeſaid, every week; that is to ſay, on the Saturday of every ſuch week for ever, a court to be held before thoſe bailiffs and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward of that town for the time being. And that in thoſe courts thoſe bailiffs and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward for the time being, may hear and determine by plaint to be levied in that court before them, all pleas and actions as well of debt, covenant, account, deceit, detinue, both of charters, writings, * muniments, goods,

* Muniments or Miniments, Scripta authentica, ſeu charta donationum et evidentiæ. Alſo the evidences or writings, whereby a perſon is enabled to defend the title of his eſtate.

and

and chattels, as of all other things, treſpaſs as well by force and arms as otherwiſe done withornam, and other things to the contempt of us and our heirs; and all contracts, matters, and perſonal things whatſoever within that town and liberty, and the members and appurtenances of the ſame, ariſing or happening, although they ſhould reach or exceed the ſum of forty ſhillings, according to the law and cuſtom of our kingdom of England; and to be defended in ſuch like pleas and actions by their own attachment to be levied, and on account of the inſufficiency of their goods and chattels, lands, and tenements, through which they might take their attachment or diſtreſs, to bring them by attachment and arreſt of their bodies for a plea in that court, and hear all and every of thoſe things according to the law and cuſtom of our kingdom aforeſaid; and may end, diſcuſs, and terminate them by the like proceſſes, judgments, determinations, and executions of the judges, by which the decrees, pleas, and actions, in our courts are finiſhed and determined.

We

We will alſo, and grant for us and our heirs, to the aforeſaid bailiffs and their ſucceſſors, that they may have one or two ſerjeants at mace within the town demeſne, hundred, and parts aforeſaid, to do and execute their buſineſs and commands. *And moreover*, we will and grant to the aforeſaid men, their heirs and ſucceſſors, that none of the eſcheators * of us and our heirs in the aforeſaid county, nor the ſteward nor marſhal, nor the clerk of the market, of the houſehold, of us, or of our heirs, ſhall in any wiſe enter to do, perform, or exerciſe any of their offices within the town demeſne, hundred, and parts aforeſaid, nor ſhall intermeddle therein; nor ſhall any of them intermeddle in any thing concerning or touching their office aforeſaid, in any mode whatſoever, notwithſtanding that expreſs mention of the true annual value of the premiſes, or of any gifts or grants made from any of our progenitors or predeceſſors to the aforeſaid men, their anceſtors and predeceſſors, before theſe times, in

* Eſcheator was an officer appointed by the Lord Treaſurer, who took cognizance of the eſcheats due to the King in the county whereof he was eſcheator.

theſe

theſe preſents be not made, or any ſtatute, act, ordinance, or reſtriction to the contrary thereof, made, done, or provided notwithſtanding, and without fine or fee in this behalf, to be taken or paid to our aid. Witneſſes to theſe preſents, the moſt venerable fathers, Th. Cardinal of Canterbury, Primate of All England; and Tho. of York, Primate of England; our Chancellor of England; Archbiſhops, the venerable fathers, John Biſhop of Lincoln, Keeper of our Privy Seal; and Edward Biſhop of Chicheſter; and our very dear ſons and brothers, Richard Duke of York, Marſhal of England; and Richard Duke of Glouceſter, great Chamberlain and Conſtable of England; and our dear couſins, Henry Earl of Eſſex, our Treaſurer of England; and Anthony Earl of Rymer, Chief Butler of England; and our beloved and faithful Thomas Stanley, of Stanley, Steward of our Houſehold; and Will. Haſtyngs of Haſtyngs, our Chamberlain, knights and others.

Given under our hand at our Palace of Weſtminſter, the 26th day of February, in the twentieth year of our reign.

T. Wheeler.

Henry VII. by a charter, dated the 10th day of July, in the ninth year of his reign, confirms the charter of Edward IV.

Henry VIII. by a charter, dated the 12th day of March, in the firſt year of his reign, confirms the above charter of Henry VII.

---

34 HENRY VIII.

Exemplification of a Warrant to the Treaſury, to deduct out of the Feefarm of the Town of Kingston, all ſuch Sums of Money as were payable to the Bailiffs and Freemen of the ſaid Town, out of any Manors, Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments then come into the Poſſeſſion of the Crown.

HENRY the Eighth, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, King,

King, Defender of the Faith, and on earth the Supreme Head of the Church of England and Ireland. To all to whom theſe preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. We have inſpected the inrolment of a certain warrant under our ſignet, and ſigned with our hand, in our Court of Augmentation of the revenues of our crown, of the term of St. Hilary, in the thirty-third year of our reign, inrolled in theſe words:

MEMORANDUM, That in the term of St. Hilary, that is to ſay, on the fourth day of February, in the thirty-third year of the reign of our Lord the King, now Henry the Eighth, the bailiffs and freemen of the royal town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the county of Surry, came into the Court of Augmentation of the revenues of the royal crown, and produced before the Chancellor and Council there, a certain warrant under the ſignet of our Lord the King, and ſigned with the hand of our Lord the King: And they demand it to be inrolled, and it is inrolled in theſe words:

"HENRY the Eight, by the grace of God, King of Englonde and of France, Defender

Defender of the feyth, Lorde of Irelonde, and in erthe ſupme hedde of the churche of Englond. To the Chancellor, Treaſourer, Attorney, Solycitor, Receyvours, and Auditors of oure Courte of Augmentacons of the revenues of oure crowne for the tyme beyng, and to all other officers and mynyſters of the ſame courte, and to every of them, greatyng. Wheare our noble pgenitoure, King Henry the fyfte, by his lres patents bearyng date the fyrſt day of Marche, in the eight yere of his reign, emongs other thyngs, graunted unto the freemen of oure towne of Kyngeſton upon Theamys, in our countie of Surrey, and to their heyres and ſucceſſours, the ſaid towne of Kyngſton upon Theamys, with all his lyberties and quitances for ever; yeldyng therefore yerely unto the ſame late Kyng, and to his heires, *twenty-ſix poundes ſixe ſhyllyngs & eight-pence,** as by the ſame lres patents, emongs other

* This ſix ſhillings and eight-pence is clearly a miſtake; and the charter of King Henry the Fifth is incorrectly recited. The original feefarm of the town was 50l. as appears by the charter of King John; and this was lowered to 26l. by Henry the Fifth;

other things therein conteyned more playnly appeareth. And wheare alſo the late Kyng of famous memory, Kyng Henry the ſixteth, one other of oure noble pgenytours, by his lres patents, bearyng date the eightene day of Marche, in the nynetene yere of his reigne, emongs other thyngs dyd graunte for hym and his heires, to the freemen of the ſaid towne of Kyngeſton, that they ſhulde be one body in right and name, and one comynaltie corporate for ev' of two baylyffs of the ſeid towne, and the men of the ſame towne, and ſhulde have ppetuall ſucceſſyon; and that they and their ſucceſſours, by the names of baylyffs and freemen of the towne of Kyngeſton upon Theamys, in the countye of Surrey aforeſeid, ſhulde be callyd and nomynated, and by the ſame name myght impleade and be impleaded, anſwere and be anſwered in all man courtes of the ſaid late Kyng

Fifth; but there is no mention anywhere made of any additional charge being impoſed upon the town that I can meet with. And it appears by the exemplification of Queen Elizabeth, that 26l. only was the amount of the feefarm with which the town then was juſtly charged.

Henry

Henry the ſixteth, his heires and ſucceſſours, and of all other what ſoev. And that the ſeid baylyffes and freemen of the ſame towne, and their ſucceſſours, ſhulde be pſons able and of capacyte in the lawe to purchaſe lands and tents to them, and to their ſucceſſours, in fee for ev; and that they ſhulde have a comen ſeale for thyngs and buſynes touchyng and concernyng the ſame baylyffs and ffreemen, as by the ſame lres patents, emongs other things therein conteyned, more playnly is ſhewed and may appeare. And wheare alſo the ſaid baylyffs and ffreemen of Kyngeſton, by their ſeverall names beforeſeid, and their p'diceſſours, from and ſythen the tyme of the ſeid late Kyng Henry the fyveth, and longe tyme before had and have uſed to have and enjoye certeyn rentys goyng owte yerely of dyvers manos, landys, tentis, and heredytaments in the ſeid counte of Surrey, towarde the yerely payment of the ſeid feeferme of twenty-ſixe pounds *ſixe ſhyllyngs and eight* pence, dyvers of whiche ſeid manos, lands, tentys, and heredytaments, whereof the ſeid ſeverale yerely

rents were ſo goyng owt by the due courſe and order of oure lawes, are nowe of late lawfully come to oure hands and poſſeſſion of eſtate in fee ſymple, by reaſon whereof the ſame ſeverale rentys whiche before weare goyng owt of the ſeid manors, lendys, tentis, and heredytaments nowe come to oure handys and poſſeſſion as is aforeſeid, by the order of oure lawes be extyncte and determyned. We therefore, wyllyng that the ſeid baylyffs and freemen of Kyngeſton aforeſeid, their p'diceſſours and ſucceſſours, be, nor hereafter ſhalbe in any wyſe dampnyfyed or hurted by occaſyon or meanes of any of the ſaid manours, landys, tentys, or heredytaments beyng come to oure hands as is aforeſeid, or that hereafter ſhall come to oure hands or poſſeſſyon, whearof any of the ſaid ſeverale yerely rents or other yerely pffytt nowe be, or before this time were goyng owte or payable to the baylyffs and freemen of the ſeid towne of Kyngeſton upon Theamys, wyle and comaundé you, and evy of you, by thauctorytie and warrant hereof, that ye do yerely defawlke, deducte, and allowe unto

unto the bailyffs and freemen of the ſaid towne of Kyngeſton for the tyme beyng, their p'diceſſours and ſucceſſours, beyng accomptaunts, before you, or any of you, of or for the ſeid yearly rent or feeferme of twentye ſixe poundys *ſixe ſhyllyngs and eight pence*; all ſuche rents and yerely pffytts as be or were goyng owte or payable to the baylyffs and freemen of the ſeid towne of Kyngeſton, for the tyme being, owt of any of the ſeid manos, lands, tents, or heredytaments, whiche by any man of meanes be come to oure hands or poſſeſſon, or that hereafter ſhall come to oure handys or poſſeſſyon. And alſo that you do certyfye under our great ſeale of the ſame Courte of Augmentacons unto the Chancellor, Treaſourer, and Barons of oure Eſcheker at Weſtmr, the names and certentes of all ſuche of the ſaid manos, landys, tents, and heredytaments nowe come to our hands and poſſeſſyon, whereof any rents or other yerely pffits were or be goyng owt towarde the payment of the ſeid yerely feeferme of twentye ſixe pounds *ſixe ſhyllyngs and eight pence*; and the

day and yere of the comyng of the ſame manors, landys, tents, and heredytaments to our hands and poſſeſſion, and the certentes of the ſame rents, for and to the intent that the p̄diceſſours of the ſaid nowe baylyffs and freemen of Kyngeſton aforeſaid, whiche nowe be and remayn accomptaunts in our ſaid courte of the Eſcheker for and concernyng our ſeid ferme, and have not yet fully fynyſhed their accompts, and have their quietus eſt for the ſame, may be abayted, defalked, deducted, and alowed upon their ſeid accomptes of and for ſuche rentes, and other yerely pffitts, as were before goyng owte of any of the ſeid manours, lands, tents, or heredytaments come to our poſſeſſyon as is aforeſeid, and payable to the p̄diceſſours of the ſeid nowe baylyffs and freemen of Kyngeſton upon Theamys for and towarde the payment of the ſeid feeferme: And theis oure lres of warrant dormant remanyng with you in youre cuſtody ſhalbe yerely to you and evy of youe, and ſuche as hereafter ſhale ſucceede you or eny of you in youre office or offices, a

ſufficient

ſufficient warrant and diſcharge ageynſt us, oure heires and ſucceſſours for ev' in that behalf.

Yoven under oure ſignet at oure manor of Grenewiche, the 28th day of December, in the thirty-third yere of oure reigne.

Now we have cauſed the tenor of the inrollment of the warrant afsd, to be exemplifyed by theſe preſents.

In witneſs whereof we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs Richd. Ryche, Knt.

At Weſtminſter, the 29th day of June, in the 34th year of our reign.* Duke.

* The following are the Rents contained in the Certificate alluded to in the above Exemplification, and claimed by the Town of Kingſton.

A yearly quit-rent, iſſuing out of the manor of *Ymber*, otherwiſe *Ymworth* -	3	18	8
Do. paid out of the manor of *Eleygate*, belonging to the late monaſtery of Weſtminſter - - -	0	2	0
Do. going out of the manor of *Mulſey Malham*, belonging to Corpus Chriſti college, in Oxford, and purchaſed by King Henry of the maſters of the ſame college	0	8	0
Do. paid yearly out of the manor of *Berwell*, belonging to the late priory of Marton - - -	0	6	0
Carr. forw.	£4	14	8

	£	s.	d.
Brought forw.	4	14	8
Do. paid yearly out of the manors of *Canbury* and *Hatch*, belonging to the ſaid priory of Marton - -	0	15	0
Do. paid yearly out of certain lands lying at the *Hoke*, belonging to the ſaid priory of Marton - -	0	0	6
Do. paid yearly out of the manor of *Eſte Mulſey*, belonging to the ſaid priory of Marton, and purchaſed by King Henry the Eighth of the priory and convent of the ſame houſe - - -	0	15	0
Do. paid yearly out of a water-mill and certain lands belonging to the ſame, lying in Kingſton, and belonging to the priory of Howneſlowe - - -	0	16	0
Do. paid yearly out of *certaine londes* lying in Kingſton, and belonging to the Charterhouſe in London - -	1	16	0
Do. paid yearly out of certain londes lying in *Long Dytton*, belonging to the late hoſpital of our Ladye Without Byſhopeſgate, London - -	0	13	2
Do. paid yearly out of certain londes, parcel of the manor of *Sondon*, belonging to the late priory of Seynt Thomas's Hoſpitall in Southewarke - -	0	13	2
Do. paid yearly out of the manor of Hampton Court - -	0	6	0
Do. for certain londe, belonging to the feefarm of Kingſton, incloſed into the King's Park at Hampton Court, called the South Park - - -	0	10	0
	£10	19	6

Edward VI. by a charter, dated at Greenwich, the 24th day of April, in the firſt year of his reign, confirms the charter of Henry VIII.

CHARTER OF PHILIP AND MARY.

Confirmation of former Charters — Grant of a Fair — and of a Fiſh Ware — with other Privileges.

PHILIP AND MARY, by the grace of God, King and Queen of England, France, Naples, Jeruſalem, and Ireland, Defenders of the Faith, Princes of Spain and Sicily, Archdukes of Auſtria, Dukes of Milan, Burgundy and Brabant, Counts of Haſpurg, Flanders, and Tirol. To all to whom theſe our preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. We have inſpected the letters patent of confirmation of Lord Edward VI. lately King of England, the brother of our very dear Queen aforeſaid, made in theſe words: Edward VI. &c. [The charter is here recited at length.] We, willing that thoſe bailiffs and freemen, their heirs and ſucceſſors, may fully and quietly have,

uſe, and enjoy all the premiſes of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have given, granted, and confirmed; and by theſe our letters patent, for us and the heirs and ſucceſſors of our aforeſaid Queen, as much as in us is, do give, grant, and confirm to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, all and all kinds of the ancient cuſtoms, liberties, privileges, franchiſes, juriſdictions, and pardons aforeſaid, and all and every other the premiſes aforeſaid, whatſoever in any charters or letters patent of any our progenitors aforeſaid, of our Queen aforeſaid, whomſoever formerly Kings of England before this given, granted, or confirmed to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their predeceſſors, by whatſoever name or names the ſame bailiffs and freemen, or their predeceſſors, or any one or any of them in the ſame letters patent, or any of them, are eſtimated, named, or called, or ought or have been uſed to be eſtimated, named, or called. And we accept, approve, and ratify all and ſingular thoſe premiſes to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, by theſe preſents,

as

as fully, freely, quietly, and entirely, as all and ſingular contained in the ſaid charters or letters patent were expreſſed, recited, or declared in the ſame charters and letters patent. And farther: We will and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, that the aforeſaid gift, grant, and confirmation, name, title, and all and ſingular other the premiſes given and granted by the aforeſaid Henry VI. late King of England, the progenitor of our ſaid Queen, aforeſaid, to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, be not any prejudice, loſs, or derogation of any liberties, franchiſes, acquittances, privileges, and cuſtoms, contained or ſpecified in any charters or letters patents of any our progenitors of the aforeſaid Queen, whomſoever to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their predeceſſors, by whatſoever names the ſaid bailiffs and freemen, or their predeceſſors, or any of them, have been uſed to be called in times paſt; but that the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, may have and hold all and ſingular the liberties, franchiſes, cuſtoms, privileges, and acquittances, and other things whatſoever, as well contained and ſpecified in the charters and letters

letters patent aforeſaid, as other liberties, franchiſes, acquittances, privileges, and cuſtoms whatſoever, lawfully uſed or accuſtomed by the ſame bailiffs and freemen, or their predeceſſors, or any of them; and may enjoy and uſe the ſame in the ſame manner and form as the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, or any, or any one of them before theſe times had, held, or enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, uſe, or enjoy them in any lawful manner, any thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding. And further: We have granted for us and our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen, to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, that the ſame bailiffs and their ſucceſſors being about to go before juſtices of the peace of * laborers and † artificers, ſheriffs, eſcheators, coroners, or before the ſteward and marſhal of our houſehold, or of the houſe-

* Juſtices of laborers, formerly appointed to ſuperintend the behaviour of labouring men that either refuſed to work, or demanded unreaſonable wages.—See ſtat. 21 Edward III. c. 1.—25 Edw. III. c. 8.—and 31 Edward III. c. 6.

† Juſtices of artificers, the ſame.

hold

hold of our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen, the clerk of the market of the ſame houſehold, juſtices of oyer and terminer, juſtices of aſſize and of gaol delivery in the county of Surry, or other officers and miniſters of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen whomſoever, as well within the town aforeſaid as without the ſame town, be not forced, held, or compelled in any manner againſt their wills; but that they ſhall ſend the ſerjeant or ſerjeants at mace of the ſaid town, to do and execute their precepts, or any other their buſineſs before the aforeſaid juſtices and other the aforeſaid officers, from time to time, whenſoever the caſe and matter ſhall ſo require, to ſerve in the room of the ſaid bailiffs and their ſucceſſors. And becauſe we have heard from the inſinuation of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, who now have two fairs or marts, by the grant of our progenitors, that it would be more uſeful and advantageous to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and all the inhabitants of the town aforeſaid, and of the confines and parts adjacent to the ſaid town, and alſo the public weal of the ſame,

ſame, that the ſame bailiffs and freemen ought yearly to have three fairs within the town of Kyngeſton; which bailiffs indeed, and freemen and inhabitants of the ſaid town of Kyngſton, have humbly entreated us, that we would extend them our favour and munificence in this behalf. Know ye, therefore, that we, conſenting to the wiſh and deſire of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have given, granted, and confirmed, and by theſe preſents, for us, and our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen, do give, grant, and confirm to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kyngeſton aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, the ſaid two fairs and marts to be held in Kyngeſton aforeſaid, at the days, years, and places there accuſtomed, with all the profits and advantages which pertain, or have been accuſtomed, to pertain to the fairs and marts of the ſame. And that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, may have and hold, and may and may be able to have and hold the ſame two marts or fairs in as ample a manner and form, and with ſuch like cuſtoms, profits, and advantages, as they and

their

their predeceſſors have been accuſtomed to have and take, in or by the fairs or marts formerly held there in the town aforeſaid, or ought to have and take by force, or reaſon of the letters patent aforeſaid. And alſo, that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, may have and hold yearly in the town aforeſaid, one other fair there, to laſt for two days, at the feaſt of St. Mary Magdalen; that is to ſay, on the day of the ſame feaſt, and the day next after the ſame feaſt; together with a court of piepowd at the time of the ſame fair, and alſo ſtallage *, picage †, fines, amerciaments, and all other profits and advantages whatſoever concerning, belonging to, happening, ariſing in, or touching ſuch like fair and court of piepowd; and to be taken and converted with all the liberties and free cuſtoms pertaining or belonging to ſuch like fair, to the proper aid, uſe, and utility of the ſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors; and the

* Stallage, the liberty or right of pitching or erecting ſtalls or booths, or the money paid for the ſame.

† Picage, a payment of money for breaking the ground, in order to erect ſuch ſtall or booth.

town

town aforeſaid, for the time being; yet ſo that that fair or mart be not to the hurt of the neighbouring fairs. Wherefore we will and firmly command, for us, our heirs, and ſucceſſors, that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, for ever may have and hold the aforeſaid fairs at the town of Kyngeſton aforeſaid, with all the liberties, free cuſtoms, advantages, and profits, belonging to or concerning ſuch like fairs or marts, without any thing thenceforth to be yielded, paid, or done in any manner to us, or our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen; yet ſo that thoſe fairs be not to the hurt of the neighbouring fairs as is aforeſaid. And farther: Know ye that we, upon the humble petition of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and for the maintenance and better ſupport of the ſame town, and in conſideration of the great burthens which the inhabitants of the ſame town daily ſuſtain in and about the repair and maintenance of the great bridge of the ſame town, called the *Greate Bridge*, now being in great ruin and decay, and for other reaſonable cauſes and conſiderations at preſent ſpecially moving us

of

of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, do for us, and our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen, grant and give leave to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, that they, and their ſucceſſors may and may be able to build, ſet up, and erect a certain wear, called a *ffiſh ware*, in the water of the Thames, near or next to the town aforeſaid. We have alſo granted to the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, a ſpace of eighty poles in the aforeſaid water of the Thames, for the ſaid wear, called a *ffiſh ware*, which the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, ſhall make, or cauſe to be made, to catch fiſh in the ſame; to have and to hold, as well the aforeſaid wear as the aforeſaid ſpace for the *ffiſh ware*, to the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, and leave and liberty to catch fiſh in the ſame *ffiſh ware*, together with all the liberties, profits, and advantages, in any manner belonging to the ſaid wear for ever, without any account, or any thing elſe therefore, in any manner to be yielded, paid, or done to us, or our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen. Alſo granting

granting to the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors may, at their pleaſure, raiſe, amend, and repair the aforeſaid wear as often as it ſhall be needful or neceſſary; and may make a very great profit and advantage thereof. Willing that neither the ſaid bailiffs or freemen, or their ſucceſſors or aſſigns, be therefore charged with any payment, or moleſted or grieved in any thing; nor any one of them be charged with any payment, or moleſted or grieved in any thing by us, or our ſucceſſors, or by the officers or miniſters of us, or of our heirs and ſucceſſors of the aforeſaid Queen, provided always that the common way there, commonly called the *faire way* of the Thames, for boats, called Barges, and other veſſels upon the ſaid water of the Thames, paſſing and ſailing through the aforeſaid wear, ſhall not be hurt in any manner. We will alſo, and by theſe preſents grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, that they may and ſhall have theſe our letters patent, under our great ſeal of England, duly made and ſealed, without fine or fee, great or ſmall, to us in our hanaper,

or

or elſewhere, to our uſe therefore, in any manner to be yielded, paid, or made, although that expreſs mention of the true yearly value or certainty of the premiſes, or any of them, or of any other gifts or grants by us, or by any of our progenitors to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen before theſe times made in theſe, preſents, is not made, or any ſtatute, act, ordinance, proviſion, or reſtriction to the contrary thereof, made, done, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

In witneſs whereof, we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs ourſelves at Greenwich, the 25th day of March, in the ſecond and third years of our reigns.

By writ of privy ſeal, &c. Naylour.

Queen Elizabeth, by a charter, dated at Weſtminſter, the 7th day of May, in the firſt year of her reign, confirms the above charter of Philip and Mary, and all others therein contained.

CHARTER OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Exemption of the Freemen of Kingſton (being Tenants in ancient Demeſne) from paying Toll, or being ſummoned on Juries.

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all and ſingular juſtices, ſheriffs, mayors, eſcheators, coroners, ſtewards, conſtables, miniſters, and all other officers and faithful ſubjects, as well within the liberty as out, to whom theſe preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. Whereas, according to the cuſtom of our kingdom of England, hitherto obtained and approved of, the men and tenants of the ancient demeſne of the crown of England, are and ought to be quit from the payment of toll throughout all our realm; and according to the cuſtom aforeſaid, the men and tenants of the ancient demeſne of our crown aforeſaid, have always hitherto, from time whereof the memory of man is not, been accuſtomed to be quit from contribution of the expence of knights

knights coming to the parliament of us, or our progenitors, formerly Kings of England, for the community of the ſame county. And alſo, according to the ſame cuſtom, the men and tenants of the manors which are of the ancient demeſne of the crown aforeſaid, for their lands and tenements which they hold of the ſame demeſne, ought not to be put upon any aſſizes, juries, or recognizances, unleſs only in thoſe which ought to be made in the court of ſuch manors; and for that, becauſe the demeſne of Kyngeſton and Emley Bridge, otherwiſe Chingſtune and Amelebrige, in our county of Surry, is of the ancient demeſne of our crown of England, as by a certain certificate thereof ſent to us in our chancery by the treaſurer and chamberlain of our exchequer, by our command, is found, we enjoin and command you, and each of you, that you do permit all and ſingular the men and tenants of the demeſne of *Kyngeſton* and *Emleybridge*, otherwiſe *Chingeſtune* and *Amelebrige* aforeſaid, to be quit from ſuch like toll to be paid for their goods or things, throughout all our realm of England, aforeſaid; and from the expence of

knights aforeſaid. And alſo, that you do not put the ſame men, and the tenants of the ſame manor, on any aſſizes, juries, or recognizances to be held without the court of the demeſne aforeſaid, unleſs only in thoſe things which ought to be done in the court of ſuch like manors, againſt the cuſtom abovementioned, unleſs they hold lands and tenements of another tenure, for which, according to the form of the ſtatute of the common council of our realm of England therefore provided, they ought to be put upon aſſizes, juries, or recognizances; and ye ſhall, without delay, releaſe to the ſame the diſtreſs, if ye have made any, of the beforementioned men and tenants of Kyngeſton and Emleybridge, otherwiſe Chingſtune and Amelebrige aforeſaid, on theſe occaſions, or any of them.

In witneſs whereof we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, the 5th day of Auguſt, in the thirty-fourth year of our reign. P. Gerrard.

CHARTER OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Grant of a Free Grammar School to the Town of Kingston.

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom theſe letters ſhall come, greeting.

Be it known that we, upon the humble petition of our beloved ſubjects the bailiffs and freemen, and inhabitants of our town of Kingſton upon Thames, in our county of Surry, for a grammar ſchool to be made and eſtabliſhed within the pariſh of Kingſton aforeſaid, in our ſaid county of Surry, for the education and inſtruction of boys and children, do, of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, grant and ordain for us and our heirs, that from henceforth there be and ſhall be one grammar ſchool in the ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, which ſhall be called *the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth*, for the education, teaching, and inſtruction of boys and children in the

grammar, for ever in future. And we erect, create, ordain, declare, and found by theſe preſents, that ſchool to conſiſt of one maſter and one under-maſter, or uſher, to continue for ever. And in order that our intention may be the better effected, and that the lands, tenements, rents, revenues, and other profits to be granted, aſſigned, and appointed for the maintenance of the aforeſaid ſchool, may the better governed for their continuation, we will, grant, and ordain, for us and our heirs, that the two bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, for the time being, ſhall be and be called *Governors of the poſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the ſaid ſchool, commonly called and to be called the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingston upon Thames, in the county of Surry.* And therefore, know ye That we have aſſigned, elected, nominated, conſtituted, and declared, and by theſe preſents aſſign, elect, nominate, conſtitute, and declare, that our beloved Wm. Matſon and George Snelling, the now bailiffs of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, be and are the firſt and preſent governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the ſaid free gram-

mar

mar ſchool of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the county of Surry, well and faithfully to exerciſe and fulfil the ſaid office, from the date of theſe preſents, as long as they ſhall happen to be in the office of bailiff of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid; and that the ſaid governors, in fact and name, from henceforth be and ſhall be one body incorporated and politic for ever, incorporated and eſtabliſhed by the name of *Governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the county of Surry*; and by theſe preſents we incorporate them, William Matſon and George Snelling, governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the county of Surry; and really and fully create, erect, ordain, make, conſtitute, and declare them by theſe preſents a body corporate and politic, by the ſame name to continue for ever. And we will, and by theſe preſents grant, for ourſelves and our heirs and ſucceſſors, that the ſaid governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and

goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the county of Surry, have a perpetual ſucceſſion, and by the ſame name be and ſhall be perſons fit and capable in the law to hold, receive, and purchaſe of us the chapel, houſes, edifices, chambers, buildings, rents, reverſions, poſſeſſions, revenues, and hereditaments underwritten and below ſpecified, and other lands, tenements, poſſeſſions, revenues, and hereditaments whatſoever, of us or any other perſon or perſons whatſoever. And be it known that we, wiſhing to carry our intention and purpoſe in this behalf into effect, have of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, given and granted, and by theſe preſents do for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſsors, give and grant to the aforementioned preſent governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the ſaid Free Grammar School, all that our free chapel with the appurtenances, called *Mary Magdalen Chapel, in Norbiton, in Kingston upon Thames* aforeſaid, in our ſaid county of Surry; and one garden belonging to us, lying next the ſaid chapel, on the eaſt ſide of the ſaid chapel;

chapel; and one other little chapel, called *St. Anne Chapel*, with the appurtenances joining the free chapel aforeſaid; and one chamber, covered with lead, over the ſaid chapel, called *St. Anne Chapel*; and one little ſtudy within the ſaid chapel; alſo one other inner chamber, with one *Hawkes Mewe* over the ſame; and a certain little chapel, in the ſame place, called *Saint Loyes Chapel*, on the ſouth ſide of the aforeſaid chapel, called Mary Magdalen Chapel; and one little place under the ſaid chapel; and one old kitchen; and a certain chamber adjoining to the ſaid kitchen; and one upper room, called a *loft*, over the ſaid kitchen and chamber; and one other chamber under the ſaid kitchen, on the weſt ſide of the aforeſaid chapel, called Mary Magdalen Chapel, and ſituated over the footway leading from the town of Kingſton aforeſaid towards London; and one dwelling next the kitchen aforeſaid; alſo one yard, on the north ſide of the aforeſaid chapel, called *Mary Magdalen Chapel*; and one other *yard*, on the weſt ſide of the ſaid chapel; and one place for walking in, called a gallery, over the yard aforeſaid, and leading from the chamber over

over the aforeſaid chapel, called *St. Anne Chapel*, to a certain little place; and two chambers, called the *maſters lodging*; and one *cellar* and four *ſmall chambers* under the *maſters lodging* aforeſaid; and a certain end of a certain barn, with a partition at the weſt end, from an old barn in the ſame place; and a certain ſtable, ſituated and being on the weſt end of the ſaid barn; and one dove-cote belonging to us; and alſo free ingreſs and regreſs as well to the dove-cote, ſtable, and barn aforeſaid, as alſo to all the other places belonging or appertaining to the aforeſaid chapel, called *Mary Magdalen Chapel*: All and ſingular which premiſes are ſituated, lying, and being in Norbiton, in the pariſh of Kingſton aforeſaid; and all which premiſes our very dear brother Edward VI. lately King of England, by his letters patent, under his great ſeal, lately made for the care, augmentation, and revenue of his crown, dated at Weſtminſter, the 26th day of April, in the firſt year of his reign, delivered, granted, and demiſed to rent, among other things, to Richard Taberner, Eſq. his executors and aſſigns, for the term of twenty-one years, to commence

at

at the Feaſt of St. Michael the Archangel then next enſuing, paying annually to our ſaid brother, his heirs and ſucceſſors, for the ſame premiſes, and for other meſſuages, lands, tenements, and hereditaments in the ſaid letters patent expreſſed and ſpecified, twelve pounds and twelve pence of legal money of England, at the Feaſt of the Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary and St. Michael the Archangel; to be paid by equal portions, during the term aforeſaid, as by thoſe letters patent, among other things, is more plainly manifeſt and appears. We alſo give, and for the conſideration aforeſaid, we grant for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, by theſe preſents, to the aforeſaid now governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the ſaid Free Grammar School, the reverſion and reverſions whatſoever of all and ſingular the premiſes, and every parcel thereof, and all that our annual rent of twenty-one ſhillings, part of the aforeſaid annual rent of twelve pounds and twelve ſhillings, by the aforeſaid letters patent of our ſaid brother, reſerved as aforeſaid; and alſo the rents, reverſions, and annual proceeds whatſoever, reſerved upon any demiſes or grants

grants made of the premiſes, or any parcel thereof, in any manner, as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as any chaplain, prieſt, or incumbent of the ſaid late free chapel, called Mary Magdalen Chapel, or any other or others hitherto having, poſſeſſing, or being ſeiſed of the premiſes, or any part thereof, ever had, held, or enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, or enjoy the ſame, or any parcel thereof; and as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as all and ſingular thoſe premiſes came or ought to come into our hands, or into the hands of our very dear father Henry VIII. lately King of England, or into the hands of our ſaid brother Edward VI. lately King of England, or into the hands of our very dear ſiſter Mary, lately Queen of England, by reaſon or pretext of any act of parliament, or any other mode, right, or title, and now are or ought to be in our hands: Which free chapel, chamber, barn, ſtable, and all others the premiſes, with their appurtenances, are now valued at the clear annual value of twenty-one ſhillings, to have, hold, and enjoy the aforeſaid free chapel,

and

and the aforeſaid rent of twenty-one ſhillings, and alſo the aforeſaid chapels, houſes, edifices, chambers, barn, ſtable, rents, reverſions, and ſervices, and all and ſingular other the premiſes, with the appurtenances, to the aforeſaid preſent governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the ſaid Free Grammar School, and their ſucceſſors for ever; to hold of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, as of our Honour of Hampton Court, in our county of Middleſex, by fealty only, in free ſoccage and not in chief, for all rents, ſervices, and demands whatſoever. And farther, of our abundant grace, we have given and granted, and by theſe preſents do give and grant to the aforeſaid governors, all the iſſues, rents, revenues, and profits of the aforeſaid chapel, and the reſt of the premiſes, from the Feaſt of St. Michael the Archangel laſt paſt, to hold to the ſaid governors, as our gift, without any account or any thing elſe to be yielded, paid, or done thereout, in any manner, to us, our heirs or ſucceſſors. And farther: We will and grant for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to the aforeſaid governors and their ſucceſſors, that they have for ever henceforth

forth a common ſeal to ſerve for their buſineſs aforeſaid, expreſſed and ſpecified in theſe letters patent, or only touching or concerning any part thereof; and that the ſame governors, by the name of the *Governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, in the town of Kingston, in the county of Surry*, may plead and be impleaded, defend and be defended, anſwer and be anſwered, in any courts and places, and before any judges and juſtices in any cauſes, actions, caſes, ſuits, complaints, pleas, and demands whatſoever, of whatſoever nature or condition they be. And farther: Of our abundant favour, we have given and granted, and by theſe preſents do give and grant for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to the aforeſaid preſent governors of the aforeſaid ſchool, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors, with the advice of the Biſhop of Wincheſter for the time being, ſhall have full power and authority of nominating and appointing the maſter and undermaſter of the aforeſaid ſchool, as often as the places of the ſaid maſter or undermaſter of the ſaid ſchool ſhall become vacant; and that the

the ſame governors, with the advice of the Biſhop of Wincheſter aforeſaid, for the time being, ſhall make, and be able and competent to make, fit and ſalutary written ſtatutes and ordinances concerning and touching the ordering, governing, and direction of the maſter and undermaſter, and the ſchool aforeſaid, for the time being; and the ſtipend and ſalary of the ſaid maſter and undermaſter, and other things touching and concerning the ſaid ſchool; and the ordering, governing, preſervation, and diſpoſal of the rents and revenues appointed, and to be appointed, for the maintenance of the ſaid ſchool: Which ſtatutes and ordinances ſo to be made, we will and grant, and command by theſe preſents to be inviolably obſerved from time to time for ever. And be it further known, that, in conſideration that the ſaid governors and their ſucceſſors may be the better enabled to ſuſtain and ſupport the aforeſaid ſchool, and maſter and undermaſter thereof, of our abundant favour, we have given and granted, and by theſe preſents do give and grant to the aforeſaid governors of the poſſeſſions, revenues, and goods of the ſaid grammar ſchool, and their ſuc-

ſucceſſors, as much as in our power, ſpecial licence, free and lawful means, power and authority to have, receive, and purchaſe to them and their ſucceſſors for ever, as well of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, as of any other perſon or perſons whomſoever, any manors, meſſuages, lands, tenements, rectories, tythes, and other hereditaments whatſoever, within the kingdom of England, or elſewhere within our dominions, ſo that they do not exceed the clear annual value of thirty pounds, beſides the ſaid chapel, houſes, edifices, and the reſt of the premiſes, to the aforeſaid governors and their ſucceſſors, as by us is already ſhewn in the aforeſaid form of grant; the ſtatute of lands and tenements not to be put in mortmain, or any other ſtatute, act, ordinance, or proviſion, or any other cauſe or matter whatſoever, had, made, done, ordered, or provided to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding, although expreſs mention of the true annual value, or of any other value or certainty of the premiſes, or any of them, or of any gifts or grants by us, or any of our progenitors to the aforeſaid preſent governors of the ſchool aforeſaid, made before theſe times, in theſe preſents, be

not

not made, or any ſtatute, act, ordinance, proviſion, proclamation, or reſtriction made, done, ordained, or provided to the contrary thereof, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

In witneſs whereof we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, the 1ſt day of March, in the third year of our reign. P. Condell.

18TH JUNE, FIFTH OF ELIZABETH.

Exemplification of a Releaſe to the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingſton, from the Payment of certain Sums with which they had been improperly charged.

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, Queen, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, greeting. We have inſpected the great roll of the 5th and 6th years of Philip and Mary, late King and Queen, in the item, Suſſex, where, among other things, is contained thus; that is to ſay, The men of Kingſton owe four hundred and ſixty-ſix pounds four ſhillings and ſixpence, of a certain

rent of twenty-ſeven pounds eight ſhillings and ſixpence by the year, of the feefarm of their town; that is to ſay, of the ſaid rent of the 30th, 31ſt, 32d, 33d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, and 38th years of the late King Henry VIII; the 1ſt, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th of the late King Edward VI; and 1ſt and 2d of King Philip and Queen Mary, as is contained in the former item, Suſſex. But they do not owe four hundred and forty pounds ſeven ſhillings and ſixpence, which is of the ſaid feefarm of the 30th, 31ſt, 32d, 33d, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, and 38th years of the late King Henry VIII; and the 1ſt, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th of the late King Edward VI. becauſe it was enacted in the parliament of Lord Henry VIII. late King of England, father of our Lady the now Queen, began at Weſtminſter the 28th day of April, in the ſaid thirty-firſt year of the reign of the ſame late King, and continued in the ſame place until the 28th day of June in the ſame thirty-firſt year, concerning the Manor and Honour of Hampton Court, for certain cauſes and conſiderations in the ſame act declared, among other things, by the authority of the ſame parliament, That the whole feefarm, annual rent, or

annuity of the borough or town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the aforeſaid county of Surry, ſhould be from thenceforth for ever united, annexed to, called, reputed, and accepted to be parcel and member of the aforeſaid Manor of Hampton Court; and that the ſame Manor of Hampton Court, together with the aforeſaid fee-farm, annual rent, or annuity of the borough or town aforeſaid, among other things, ſo united and annexed to the ſame Honour of Hampton Court at that time, ſhould be named, called, and accepted the Honour of Hampton Court. And further, by the aforeſaid act it was enacted, among other things, by the authority aforeſaid, That the aforeſaid Honour of Hampton Court, and the aforeſaid annual fee-farm rent or annuity of the borough or town aforeſaid, among other things, at that time ſhould be in the order, ſurvey, rule, and governance of the late Court of Augmentation of the Revenues of the Royal Crown, and ſhould be granted, delivered, and demiſed to farm by the officers and ſervants of the ſame late court; And that all rents, iſſues, revenues, and profits ariſing and growing out of the premiſes, and every parcel thereof, ſhould be taken and

received to the uſe of the King, by the miniſters and officers of the ſame late court, any ſtatute, act, ordinance, cuſtom, or uſe had, made, or uſed to the contrary thereof notwithſtanding, as in the ſaid act is more fully contained. And by the proceſs thereof had, and the grant of the Barons noted in the memorandums on the part of the Treaſurer Remembrancer of the firſt year of our now Queen Elizabeth; that is to ſay, among the records in the rolls of Michaelmas term, where it is granted, that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen ſhould be exonerated from the aforeſaid feefarm, exacted from them in form aforeſaid; and from all and ſingular arrears due, and ſums of money exacted from them, or for the ſame rent; that is to ſay, from the aforeſaid time of the making the act above-mentioned, until the diſſolution of the ſaid late Court towards our ſaid Lady the Queen, and be freed by virtue of the premiſes: And they ought not from henceforth to be burthened with the ſum of fifty-ſeven ſhillings, which are parcel of the ſaid feefarm of twenty-ſeven pounds eight ſhillings and ſixpence of the firſt year of the late Queen

Queen Mary, and firſt and ſecond of King Philip and Queen Mary; nor of twenty-eight ſhillings and ſixpence, by the year, parcel of the ſaid fee-farm of twenty-ſeven pounds eight ſhillings and ſixpence, from the time of the diſſolution of the late Court of Augmentation of the Revenues of the Royal Crown, becauſe the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid are not juſtly burthened with * twenty-eight ſhil-

* This ſerves in ſome degree to elucidate the miſtake occaſioned by the exemplification of a warrant to the Treaſury in the thirty-fourth year of the reign of Henry VIII. where it ſtates the feefarm of the town to be 26l. 6s. 8d.; whereas in fact it was only 26l. as appears by the charter of Henry V. who lowered it to that ſum. And by this preſent exemplification we find, that it was afterwards raiſed to 27l. 8s. 6d. but by what means, we are in the dark; only we know that it was *unjuſtly*, as this exemplification declares; and accordingly it releaſes 28s. 6d. which reduces it to the original ſum of 26l. Mr. Lyſons ſtates, in his account of this place, that Queen Mary remitted a further part of this 26l.; but as he profeſſes to have derived his information from a cartulary in the Town Clerk's Office, and as I have not been able to trace out any ſuch charter of Queen Mary, we may fairly conclude him to have been deceived in this point, and particularly as a ſubſequent charter ſtates it to be then 26l.

lings and ſixpence yearly, parcel of the ſaid feefarm of twenty-ſeven pounds eight ſhillings and ſixpence by the year, by the proceedings and grant of the Barons, noted in the ſame place, where it is granted That the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, ſhould be exonerated by reaſon of the premiſes from the aforeſaid twenty-eight ſhillings and ſixpence, parcel of the ſaid feefarm of twenty-ſeven pounds eight ſhillings and ſixpence yearly, from the time of the diſſolution of the ſaid late Court of Augmentation of the Revenues of the Royal Crown towards our ſaid Lady the now Queen: And they do not owe the ſum of fifty-two pounds, which are parcel of the ſaid feefarm of twenty-ſeven pounds eight ſhillings and ſixpence for the firſt year of Queen Mary, and firſt and ſecond of King Philip and Queen Mary, becauſe Robert Hamond, bailiff of the town of Kingſton upon Thames, accounted for twenty-ſeven pounds thereof, beyond a certain ſum of thirty pounds eight ſhillings and tenpence, as is contained in his account thereof in the roll of the accounts of the miniſters, not ingroſſed, of the firſt and

ſecond

ſecond year of the ſaid King Philip and Queen Mary: And alſo, becauſe Walter Walker, bailiff of the ſaid town, accounted for twenty-ſix pounds reſidue, beyond a certain ſum of thirty pounds eight ſhillings and tenpence, as is contained in his account thereof in the roll of the accounts of miniſters, not ingroſſed, of the ſecond and third years of the ſaid King and Queen. And they are freed, all and ſingular, which we have cauſed to be exemplified at the inſtance and requeſt of our beloved and faithful ſubject William Matteſon, yeoman.

In witneſs whereof we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs our very dear Couſin and Counſellor William Marquis of Wincheſter, our Treaſurer of England.

At Weſtminſter, the 18th Day of June, in the fifth year of our reign. Smyth.

And by the Barons.

CHARTER OF QUEEN ELIZABETH.

Grant to the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingſton of divers Lands, Tenements, and Rents, towards the Maintenance of the Free School.

ELIZABETH, by the grace of God, of England, France, and Ireland, Queen,

Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom theſe preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. Whereas we, upon the humble petition of our beloved ſubjects the Bailiffs and Freemen of our town of Kingſton upon Thames, in our county of Surry, for a Grammar School to be erected and ſet up, within the pariſh of Kingſton aforeſaid, in our ſaid county of Surry, for the inſtruction of Boys and Youths, by letters patent ſigned under our great ſeal of England, bearing date at Weſtminſter, the firſt day of March, in the third year of our reign, willed, granted, and ordained, for us and our heirs, that there ſhould be thenceforth in future a Grammar School in the ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, which ſhall be called The Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth, for the Education, Inſtitution, and Inſtruction of Boys and Youths in the Grammar, to continue in all future times. And we erected, created, ordained, declared, and founded by the ſame letters patent, that School of one Pedagogue or Maſter, and one Undermaſter or Uſher, to continue for ever; as by the ſame letters patent, among other things, is more plainly manifeſt and appears.

pears. And whereas alſo, our very dear Father Henry the Eighth, late King of England, by a certain indenture, bearing date at Weſtminſter, the 5th day of May, in the twenty-eighth year of his reign, made between himſelf the late King, on the one part; and Richard Taverner, of London, Eſq. of the other part, delivered, granted, and to farm demiſed to the aforeſaid Richard Taverner, all thoſe his meſſuages and tenements, with the appurtenances following, ſituate, lying, and being in the town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the county of Surry; that is to ſay, One inn, called the *George*, with one garden and a barn, ſituate and being in the *Back Lane* of Kingſton aforeſaid, near an old corn mill: And one cloſe or croft of land, containing by eſtimation ſix acres, lying between *Hoggs Mill* on the eaſtern ſide, and parcel of lands, called the *Bitton*, on the weſtern ſide: And one acre of arable land, called the *Tenter Acre*, lying in the common field of Kingeſton aforeſaid, called *Tenter Field*; and eleven tenements, three gardens, and one barn, whereof one tenement is in Surpleton, with one barn and one pightell, con-

containing one acre of land; by eſtimation eighty acres of land, with the appurtenances belonging to the ſame: Another tenement, called the *Berehouſe*, with an orchard and ſtable belonging to the ſame tenement: Another tenement, in which John Gage at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which John Standon at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which William Trewman at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which Alice Bekewythe, widow, at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which Henry Edington at time dwelt: Another tenement, in which John Onam at that time dwelt, with ten acres of land belonging to the ſame; Another tenement, in which John Palmer at that time dwelt, with one ſmall barn and one acre of land belonging to the ſame: Another tenement, in which Thomas Fyſte at that time dwelt: Another tenement, in which John Chapman, barboure, at that time dwelt: One barn, at that time in the poſſeſſion of John Jobſon: Two gardens, or pightells, at that time in the poſſeſſion of Agnes Smith; One garden, at that time in the tenure of Robert Webb: And one pightell, at that time

time in the poſſeſſion of William Bonde; except, however, and always entirely reſerved to our ſaid Father Henry the Eighth, his heirs and ſucceſſors, all great trees and woods growing and being in and upon the premiſes, to have and to hold the aforeſaid meſſuages, lands, tenements, and all other and ſingular the premiſes above expreſſed and ſpecified, with their appurtenances, except as before excepted, to the before-mentioned Richard Taverner and his aſſigns, from the Feaſt of St. Michael the Archangel at that time next to be, to the end and during the term of twenty-one years from thence next enſuing, and fully to be completed; yielding therefore yearly to our ſaid late Father Henry the Eighth, his heirs and ſucceſſors, fourteen pounds of legal money of England, at the Feaſt of the Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin and St. Michael the Archangel, or within one month after each of thoſe Feaſts, at the late Court of Augmentation of the Revenues of the Royal Crown, to be paid by equal portions during the term aforeſaid, as by the ſame indenture made to the aforeſaid Richard Taverner, as is aforeſaid,

is

is more plainly manifeſt and appears. And moreover, whereas our very dear brother Edward VI. late King of England, by his letters patent, under his great ſeal of the late Court of Augmentation of the revenues of his crown, bearing date at Weſtminſter, the 11th day of May, in the fourth year of his reign, delivered, granted, and demiſed to farm at that time to his beloved ſubject, John Good, one toft belonging to him, at that time lately built, called *Draggers*, containing by eſtimation half an acre; and alſo ſix acres of arable land belonging to him, and one rood of land belonging to the ſame toft; whereof three acres are lying and being in a certain field, called *Coombefeild*, and divers parcels; and another acre thereof are lying and being in a field, called the *Little Feild*, in *Brokefurlong*; and another acre thereof is lying and being in the ſame field, at the *Chappele Style*; and another acre thereof is lying and being in the ſame field, in three parts; and the aforeſaid rood of land is lying and being in a certain field, called *Thyſtlings Cloſe*: all which, and ſingular laſt expreſſed premiſes, at that time were in the tenure or occupation of the ſaid

John

John Good, and are ſituated, lying, and being in Kingſton upon Thames, or elſewhere, in our ſaid county of Surry; and were lately parcel of the poſſeſſions of the late priory of Marton, and at that time were parcel of his Honour of Hampton Court, in our county of Middleſex; except however, and always wholly reſerved to our ſaid late brother, his heirs and ſucceſſors, all large trees and woods in and upon the premiſes, growing and being; to have and to hold the aforeſaid lands, and all and ſingular other the premiſes laſt expreſſed and ſpecified, with all their appurtenances, except as before excepted, to the aforeſaid John Good, his executors and aſſigns, from the Feaſt of St. Michael the Archangel, at that time next to be, to the end, and during the term of twenty-one years from thence next enſuing, and fully to be completed: Yielding thence yearly to our ſaid late brother, his heirs and ſucceſſors, twenty-ſix ſhillings and eight-pence of lawful money of England, at the Feaſt of the Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary and St. Michael the Archangel, or within one month after each of thoſe feaſts, to be

be paid to the hands of the bailiffs or receivers of the premiſes for the time being, by equal portions during the term aforeſaid, as by the ſame letters patent made to the ſame John Good, as is aforeſaid, among other things likewiſe, is more plainly manifeſt, and appears the reverſion and reverſions of all and ſingular the premiſes and every parcel thereof lawfully belonging and pertaining to us. Know ye that we, of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, and alſo for the augmentation of the ſtipend and living of the pedagogue or maſter of the ſchool aforeſaid, for the time being, and on account of the better ſupport, maintenance, and continuation of the ſaid ſchool, to be had for ever, according to the intention and ordinance expreſſed and declared in theſe letters patent, and according to the foundation of the ſame ſchool, have given and granted, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, do give and grant to the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of our ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, in our ſaid county of Surry, the reverſion and reverſions of all and ſingular the aforeſaid meſſuages, lands, tenements,

tenements, and all and ſingular other the premiſes demiſed to the aforeſaid Richard Taverner as aforeſaid, and every parcel thereof, with the appurtenances; and the aforeſaid yearly rent of fourteen pounds, for the ſame premiſes, reſerved by the aforeſaid indenture, made to the aforeſaid Richard Taverner, as is beforementioned. And alſo, the reverſion and reverſions of all and ſingular the premiſes demiſed to farm to the abovementioned John Good, as is aforeſaid, and every parcel thereof, with the appurtenances; and the aforeſaid annual rent of twenty-ſix ſhillings and eight-pence, reſerved by the aforeſaid letters patent, made to the aforeſaid John Good, as is beforementioned. And alſo, all that our meſſuage, tenement, and inn, called the *George*; with one garden and one barn, ſituated in the *Back Lane* of Kingſton, near an old corn-mill there: And *one cloſe* of land, containing by eſtimation ſix acres, lying between Hoggs Mill, on the eaſt ſide, and parcel of the land, called *the Bitton*, on the weſt ſide: And one acre of arable land lying in the common field, called *Tenter-Feild*: And alſo, all thoſe *eleven tenements*,

three

three gardens, and one barn, with their appurtenances; whereof one tenement is ſituated in Surpleton, with one barn, and one pightell of land, containing by eſtimation one acre, and eighty acres of land belonging to the ſame: One other tenement, called the *Berehouſe*, with an orchard and ſtable belonging to the ſame tenement: *One tenement*, now or lately in the tenure of John Gage: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Standon: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of William Trewman: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Alice Bekewythe, widow: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Henry Edington: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Onam, with ten acres of land belonging to the ſame: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Palmer, with one ſmall barn, and one acre of land belonging to the ſame: *One other tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Thomas Fyſte: *One tenement*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Chapman,

Chapman, Barber: *One barn*, in the tenure of John Jobſon: *Two gardens, or pightells*, in the tenure of Agnes Smith: *One garden* in the tenure of Robert Webb: *And one pightell*, in the tenure of William Bond: And alſo, all that our annual quit-rent of thirty-ſix ſhillings, annually iſſuing and to be paid out of divers our lands and tenements in Kingſton; all which and ſingular the premiſes laſt expreſſed, and before granted and demiſed to the aforeſaid Richard Taverner, are lying and being in the pariſh of Kingſton upon Thames, in our ſaid county of Surry, and formerly were belonging and appertaining to the late demeſne or priory of the Carthuſian Monks of London, now diſſolved, and were lately parcel of the poſſeſſions thereof: And alſo, all that our toft, lately built, called *Draggers*, containing by eſtimation half an acre: And alſo, *ſix acres* of our arable land, and *one rood* of our land belonging to the ſame toft, of which three acres of land thereof are lying and being in a certain field, called *Coombe-feild*, in divers parcels; and another acre thereof is lying and being in the ſame field, in three parts; and the aforeſaid rood of land is lying and being in a certain field,

called *Thiſtings Cloſe*; all which and ſingular the premiſes are now or lately were in the tenure or occupation of John Good, and are ſituated, lying, and being in Kingſton upon Thames, or elſewhere, in our ſaid county of Surry; and were lately parcel of the poſſeſſions of the late priory of Marton, and now are parcel of our Honour of Hampton Court, in our ſaid county of Middleſex: *And* alſo, all that our ſet rent of *four ſhillings*, annually iſſuing from the meſſuage or inn in Kingſton aforeſaid, called the *Crane*, now or lately in the tenure of Jacob Ware: *And* all that our rent of *eighteen-pence*, yearly iſſuing from a tenement in Kingſton aforeſaid, of a certain George Snellinge, ſenior, and now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Cooke: *And* all that our rent of *ſixpence*, yearly iſſuing from lands of the late John Weſtbroke, lying in a certain cloſe at *Gadbridge* next to *Berefeld*, within the pariſh of Kingſton aforeſaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of George Snelling, ſenior: *And* all that our rent of *twenty-pence*, annually iſſuing from a tenement of the late William Collins, in Norbiton, within the ſaid pariſh of Kingſton aforeſaid: *And* all that our rent

of

of *eight-pence*, yearly iſſuing from a tenement of Henry Grooer, in Kingſton aforeſaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of William Whitfield: *And* all that our rent of *five ſhillings*, yearly iſſuing from two tenements in Kingſton aforeſaid, of a certain John Amo, of which one is an inn, and is called the *Oſtridge Fethers*; and the other is called the *Vyne*: *And* all that our rent of *eight ſhillings*, yearly iſſuing from a tenement in Kingſton aforeſaid, of a certain William Bayer, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Alice Elliot, widow: *And* all that our rent of *fifteen-pence*, yearly iſſuing from a tenement of the heirs of William Hawkins, in Kingſton aforeſaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Henry Padbury: *And* alſo, all that our rent of *five ſhillings*, yearly iſſuing from a tenement in Kingſton aforeſaid, of a certain William Stevens, late of Cecilia Bolton, and now or lately in the tenure or occupation of the aforeſaid William Stevens: *And* all that our rent of *twenty-pence*, yearly iſſuing from a tenement in Kingſton aforeſaid, of a certain *Thomas Benſon*, now or lately in the tenure of Adrian Johnſon: *And* all that

our rent of *ſeven ſhillings*, yearly iſſuing from a tenement of the heirs of Auguſtin Skerne, in Kingſton aforeſaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of Robert Newens: *And* all that our rent of *three ſhillings*, yearly iſſuing from a tenement of a certain John Robinſon, widower, in Kingſton aforeſaid, in the market-place there, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of George Snelling, junior: *And* all that our rent of *four ſhillings*, yearly iſſuing from a tenement now or late in the tenure or occupation of Agnes Sterr, widow, ſituate and being in Talworth, in the pariſh of Long Ditton, in the ſaid county of Surry: *And alſo*, all that our *garden*, with the appurtenances in Kingſton aforeſaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of George Snelling, ſenior, or his aſſigns: *And alſo*, all that our *garden*, with the appurtenances in Kingſton aforeſaid, late in the tenure or occupation of John Sepham: *And* all that our *garden*, with the appurtenances in Kingſton aforeſaid, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Robinſon, widower: *And* all that our *cottage or tenement*, with the appurtenances, ſituate, lying,

lying and being in Kingſton aforeſaid, in a certain ſtreet there, called *Giggbill Strete*, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of the ſaid John Sepham, or his aſſigns; all which and ſingular laſt expreſſed premiſes were formerly belonging and appertaining to the late free chapel of the bleſſed Virgin Mary Magdalen, near Kingſton upon Thames, in the ſaid county of Surry, now diſſolved, and were lately parcel of the poſſeſſions thereof: *And* alſo, all that our *tenement*, with the appurtenances, ſituated and being in *Ham* aforeſaid, within the ſaid pariſh of Kingſton aforeſaid: And alſo, all that our *arable land* belonging to the ſame tenement, containing by eſtimation *two acres*, whether more or leſs, now or lately in the tenure or occupation of John Sepham or his aſſigns, for a long time belonging and appertaining to the late monaſtery of Shene in our ſaid county of Surry, now diſſolved, and were lately parcel of the poſſeſſions thereof. *We alſo give*, and for the conſideration aforeſaid, grant by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the county of Surry, all

and all manner of woods, underwoods, and trees whatſoever, belonging to us, growing and being out of, in, or upon the premiſes, or any parcel thereof: And alſo the reverſion and reverſions whatſoever of all and ſingular the premiſes, and every parcel of the ſame: And alſo the rents, revenues, and annual profits whatſoever, reſerved upon any demiſes and grants of the premiſes, or any parcel thereof, in whatſoever manner made, as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as any former abbots, priors, chaplains, or other governors of the ſaid late priories, chapels, or religious houſes, or any other or others formerly having, poſſeſſing, or being ſeiſed of the premiſes, or any parcel thereof, ever had, held, or enjoyed, or ought to have had, held, or enjoyed the ſame, or any parcel thereof; and as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as all and ſingular thoſe premiſes came or ought to have come to our hands, or to the hands of our ſaid very dear father, Henry VIII. late King of England; or to the hands of our very dear brother, Edward VI. late King of England; or to the hands of our very dear

dear ſiſter Mary, late Queen of England, by reaſon or pretext of any act of parliament, or by any other manner, right, or title, and now are or ought to be in our hands; *all* which meſſuages, lands, tenements, meadows, feedings, paſtures, and all other the premiſes with the appurtenances, are only valued at the clear annual rent of eighteen pounds nine ſhillings and ſeven-pence: to have, hold, and enjoy the aforeſaid meſſuages, lands, tenements, houſes, barns, ſtables, gardens, lands, woods, underwoods, rents, revenues, ſervices, hereditaments, and all and other the premiſes, with all their appurtenances, to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and their ſucceſſors for ever, according to the intention and ordinances by us expreſſed, ſpecified, and declared in theſe our letters patent, to be held of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors in feefarm; that is to ſay, in free ſoccage as of our manor of Eaſt Greenwich, in our county of Kent; and yielding therefore to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, eighteen pounds nine ſhillings and ſeven-pence of legal money of England, to the hands of the Receiver General of us, our

heirs and ſucceſſors of our ſaid county of Surry for the time being, at the Feaſts of St. Michael the Archangel, and the Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary, to be paid by equal portions every year for all other ſervices, rents, and demands whatſoever to be yielded, paid, or done therefore in any manner to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors. *And* farther, we declare and will and for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, by theſe preſents, firmly ordain and determine, that, in conſideration of our preſent grant, *twenty marks* * yearly of good and lawful money of England, do iſſue for ever and from time to time, beyond and beſides the aforeſaid rent of eighteen pounds nine ſhillings and ſevenpence reſerved to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, as aforeſaid; and ſhall be paid, converted, and expended by the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our town of King-

* A mark of ſilver, in the reign of Henry I. was only ſix ſhillings and a penny in weight, but is now thirteen ſhillings and four-pence. There was alſo a mark of gold, which, according to Stow's Annals, weighed eight ounces, and was valued at ſix pounds in ſilver; or, as others write, ſix pounds thirteen ſhillings and four-pence.

ſton

ſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for the time being, for the ſupport and maintenance of the ſchool aforeſaid, and of the maſter of the ſame ſchool for the time being, at the four yearly terms; that is to ſay, at the Feaſt of the Nativity of St. John the Baptiſt, St. Michael the Archangel, the Birth-day of our Lord, and the Annunciation of the Bleſſed Virgin Mary, by equal portions yearly, from time to time, for ever, although that expreſs mention of the true yearly value, or of any other value or certainty of the premiſes, or any of them, or of any gifts or grants by us, or any of our progenitors to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingſton aforeſaid, before theſe times, made in theſe preſents, is not made, or any ſtatute, act, ordinance, proviſion, proclamation, or reſtriction to the contrary thereof hitherto had, made, done, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

In witneſs whereof, we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, the 17th day

day of May, in the ſixth year of our reign *.

By writ of privy ſeal, and of the date aforeſaid, by authority of parliament.

P. Cordett.

CHARTER OF KING JAMES I.

Grant of divers Privileges, and a Weekly Market every Saturday.

JAMES, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom theſe preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. Whereas our town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the county of Surry, is a very

* Much of the premiſes granted by this charter have been converted into private property, and by ſome means or other made away with; and this is what the Magna Britannia alludes to in the following paſſage, where it ſays "the Free School at Kingſton "was erected by Queen Elizabeth, who well endowed "it with good annual rents; but they are ſo much "impaired and embezzled, that there is no more re- "maining than thirty pounds per annum."

ancient

ancient and populous town: And whereas alſo Lord Edward IV. late King of England, by his letters patent under the great ſeal of England, dated the 26th day of February, in the twentieth year of his reign, of his ſpecial favour and certain knowledge, granted and confirmed for himſelf and his heirs to the freemen of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, that they ſhould be one body in deed and name, and one perpetual community, incorporated of two bailiffs of that town and the men of the ſame town; and that they ſhould have a perpetual ſucceſſion; and that they and their ſucceſſors ſhould be called and named by the names of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingſton upon Thames, in the County of Surry; and by thoſe names might plead and be impleaded, anſwer and be anſwered, in whatſoever courts of him or his heirs, or any others whomſoever. And that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of that town, and their ſucceſſors, ſhould be perſons fit and capable in law to purchaſe lands and tenements to themſelves and their heirs in fee and perpetuity, and ſhould have a common ſeal to ſerve for the buſineſs and affairs

affairs touching and concerning thoſe bailiffs and men; and from time to time may make and ordain ordinances and ſtatutes within the ſame town, for the wholeſome rule and governance of that town. And moreover he, the late King Edward IV. granted and confirmed by the ſame letters patent, to the ſame bailiffs and men, and their ſucceſſors, that they might have and hold within the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, every week, that is to ſay, on the Saturday of every ſuch week for ever, a court to be holden before thoſe bailiffs and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward of that town for the time being; and that in the ſame courts thoſe bailiffs and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward for the time being, may hear and determine before them all manner of pleas and actions, both of debt, covenant, account, deceit, detinue, as well of charters, writings, muniments, goods and chattels, as of other things whatſoever, treſpaſſes both by force and arms, as otherwiſe done withernam, and other things to the contempt of the aforeſaid King and his heirs, and of the ſtatutes; and of all perſonal contracts, matters, and things whatſoever ariſing

ariſing or happening within that town and the liberties, members, and appurtenances of the ſame, although they ſhould reach or exceed the ſum of forty ſhillings, by plaint, to be brought in that court, according to the law and cuſtom of the kingdom of England, and defend in ſuch like pleas and actions, the diſtreſſes by their attachment; and, on account of the inſufficiency of goods and chattels by which they may be ſummoned, attached, or diſtrained, to bring them by attachment and arreſt of their bodies to plead in that court; and may hear all and ſingular thoſe things according to the law and cuſtom of our realm aforeſaid, and diſcuſs and determine them by the like proceſs, conſiderations, judgments, and executions of the judges, that the like pleas and actions are brought to a termination in the courts of the ſaid King; with divers other liberties, grants, immunities, privileges, and pre-eminences in the ſame letters patent contained, as by the ſame letters patent, among other things, is more plainly manifeſt and appears.

Know ye that we, deſiring the improvement of the ſame town, and conſidering the

the good and laudable ſervices hitherto often done to and beſtowed upon us and our progenitors by the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, do for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, give, grant, and confirm to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, that it may and ſhall be lawful for the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, that they or the major part of them for the time being, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, for the time being, be two, as often as it ſhall ſeem to them fit and neceſſary, may call together and hold within the Guildhall of the town aforeſaid, and may and may be able to have and hold there, in all future times, a certain court or convocation of the ſame bailiffs and freemen, or of the major part of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, for the time being, be two; and in the ſame court or convocation may and may be able to confer, treat, decree, and conſult upon ſtatutes, laws, articles, and ordi-

nances

nances touching and concerning the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and the liberties thereof, and the good regulation of the ſame, according to their ſound diſcretions, or according to the ſound diſcretions of the major part of the ſame, aſſembled in the ſaid Guildhall for the time being; of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, for the time being, be two; and that the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid and their ſucceſſors, for the time being, or the major part of the ſame, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, for the time being be two; being aſſembled and gathered together in the court or convocation aforeſaid, may and ſhall have from time to time, and at all future times, full authority, power, and faculty to form, conſtitute, ordain, make, and decree, ſuch and ſuch like laws, inſtitutions, ordinances, and conſtitutions which to them, or the major part of the ſame, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, for the time being be two, ſhall ſeem, according to their ſound diſcretions to be good, ſalutary, uſeful, honeſt, and neceſſary

for the keeping of our peace, and for
good rule and governance of the afore-
town of Kingſton upon Thames, and
bailiffs and freemen, and all other
ers, miniſters, artificers, and others
biting or reſiding within the town
ſaid, and the liberties of the ſame,
he time being; and for a declaration
hat manner and order the ſame bai-
and freemen, and all and ſingular
r the miniſters, officers, artificers, in-
tants, and thoſe reſiding in the town
ſaid, and others being there, ſhall
luct, behave, and employ themſelves
ieir offices, functions, ſervices, trades,
buſineſs within the town aforeſaid,
the liberties of the ſame, for the time
g; and otherwiſe, for the further good
ie republic, common utility, and good
lation of the town and liberty afore-
and the victuallers of the ſame town
liberty; and alſo for the better preſer-
n, governance, diſpoſition, letting,
demiſing of lands, tenements, poſſeſ-
, revenues, and hereditaments, for-
y or by theſe preſents given, granted,
ſſigned, or hereafter to be given or
ned to the aforeſaid bailiffs and free-
men,

men, and their ſucceſſors, and other things and cauſes whatſoever, touching, or in any manner concerning the town aforeſaid, or the ſtate, right, and intereſt of the ſame town, and the liberty of the ſame: And that the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid for the time being, and their ſucceſſors, or the major part of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the ſaid town of Kingſton for the time being be two, as often as they ſhall have formed, made, ordained, or decreed, ſuch like laws, inſtitutions, decrees, ordinances, or conſtitutions, in form aforeſaid, may make, ordain, limit, and provide ſuch and ſuch like pains, puniſhments, and penalties, by impriſonment of their bodies, or by fines, and amerciaments, or by both of them, on the part of and upon all offenders againſt ſuch like laws, inſtitutions, decrees, ordinances, and conſtitutions, or any one, or any of them, as and which to the ſame bailiffs and freemen for the time being, or the major part of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames for the time being be two, ſhall beſt ſeem neceſſary, fit, and requiſite for the obſerving and preſerving

the aforeſaid laws, ordinances, and conſtitutions: And that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, may and may be able to levy, recover, take, and have the ſame puniſhments, fines, and amerciaments to the proper aid and uſe of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, for the time being, without the hindrance of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, or any officers or miniſters of us or our heirs or ſucceſſors, and without any payment or any account therefore to be paid, yielded, or made in any manner to us, our heirs or ſucceſſors: All and ſingular which laws, ordinances, inſtitutions, and conſtitutions ſo to be made as aforeſaid, we will be obſerved, under the puniſhments in the ſame contained, yet ſo that the aforeſaid laws, ordinances, conſtitutions, puniſhments, penalties, fines, and amerciaments, nor any of them, be not repugnant nor contrary to the laws, ſtatutes, rights, or cuſtoms of our kingdom of England: And further we will, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the ſame bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their

their ſucceſſors from henceforth for ever may have and hold, and may and may be able to have and hold within the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, a court of record every Saturday in every week through the year for ever, before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid for the time being; and in the abſence of the aforeſaid ſteward of that court, before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the recorder of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or two of them; and that they may hold in that court, by plaint, to be levied in the ſame court, all and all kinds of pleas, actions, ſuits, and perſonal demands, of whatſoever perſonal treſpaſſes, by force and arms, and of whatſoever other treſpaſſes done, committed, ariſing, happening, or perpetrated, or hereafter to be done, committed, ariſe, happen, or be perpetrated within the town aforeſaid, the ſuburbs, limits, and precincts of the ſame, and the hundred of Kingſton and Elmebridge; and of all and all manner of debts, pleas upon the caſe, deceit, account, covenant, detinue of charters, writings and muniments, and chattels, captions and detinues of cattle

and chattels, and other contracts whatſoever, ariſing, or in future happening to ariſe, from whatſoever cauſes or things within the town aforeſaid, the ſuburbs, limits, and precincts of the ſame, and within the hundred of Kingſton, and Elmebridge aforeſaid, or any of them, although the ſame treſpaſſes, debts, accounts, covenants, deceits, detinues, or other contracts, ſhould reach or exceed the ſum or value of forty ſhillings; and that ſuch like pleas, plaints, ſuits, and actions may be heard and determined there, before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the ſteward of that court for the time being; and in the abſence of the aforeſaid ſteward of the ſaid court, before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the recorder of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or two of them, by ſuch and the like proceſs, modes, and manners, according to the law and cuſtom of our kingdom of England, as is agreeable to our law, and in as ample a manner and form as is uſed and accuſtomed in any other court of record in any city, borough, and town incorporated within this our realm of England: And we will by theſe preſents, and of our boun-

bountiful ſpecial favour, and certain knowledge, and mere motion, do for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that they may for ever have, enjoy, and take, and may be able to have, enjoy, take, and levy, to the proper uſe and profit of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, all and all kinds of fines, iſſues, amerciaments, forfeitures, and profits to be impoſed, proceed, fall, ariſe, happen, or be forfeited in the court aforeſaid, before the aforeſaid bailiffs and the ſteward of the court aforeſaid, or before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid and the recorder of the town aforeſaid, in the abſence of the ſaid ſteward of that court, or before two of them in that court: And that it may and ſhall be lawful for the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, for the better having and enjoying the ſame fines, iſſues, amerciaments, forfeitures and profits, from time to time to collect and levy all and ſingular ſuch like fines, iſſues, amerciaments, forfeitures, and profits, by the proper miniſters of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen

of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, according to the law and cuſtom of our kingdom of England. *And farther*, We, graciouſly providing for the good rule and governance of the town aforeſaid in this behalf, of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have given and granted, and by theſe preſents do for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, give and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, that the aforeſaid bailiffs of the town aforeſaid for the time being, and the ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid, and the recorder of the town aforeſaid for the time, may, and each of them may, and ſhall be a juſtice of the peace for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and the precincts and liberties of the ſame town, and alſo within the village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch; and to keep, and cauſe to be kept, all the ordinances and ſtatutes made for the good of our peace, and for the preſerving of the ſame, and for the quiet rule and governance of our people in all their

their articles within the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and the aforeſaid village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid, and the precincts and liberties of the ſame town of Kingſton upon Thames, according to the form and effect of the ſame; and to chaſtiſe and puniſh all offenders againſt the form of thoſe ordinances or ſtatutes, or any one of them, within the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and the village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid, and the precincts and liberties of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, as according to the form of thoſe ordinances and ſtatutes ſhall be to be done; and to cauſe all thoſe within the aforeſaid town and the village, hamlet, precinct, and liberties of the town aforeſaid, who ſhall have threatened any one, or any of our people, either concerning their bodies or the burning their houſes, to come before them, or any of them, to find ſufficient ſecurity for the peace, or for their good behaviour towards us and our people. And if they ſhall refuſe to find ſuch like ſecurity, then they ſhall cauſe them to be ſafely kept in priſon until

they ſhall have found ſuch like ſecurity. And that the aforeſaid bailiffs and ſteward of the court aforeſaid, and recorder of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid for the time being, or any three of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames for the time being be two, have from henceforth for ever full power and authority to enquire of, hear, and determine within the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and the aforeſaid village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid, and the precincts and liberties of the ſame town, all and all manner of felonies, murders, homicides, robberies, maihems, inſults, riots, routs, forcible entries on lands or tenements, treſpaſſes againſt the peace of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, unlawful aſſemblies, embraceors, conſpiracies, contempts, concealments; and alſo all other miſpriſion, miſdeeds, defaults, neglects, cauſes and articles which belong, or from henceforth can belong, to the authority or power of a juſtice or keeper of the peace; and alſo the correction of all and ſingular malefactors or offenders againſt the ſtatutes already made, or in future to be made,

made, concerning laborers, artificers, innkeepers, victuallers, foreſtallers, regrators, and alſo all and all kinds of things whatſoever within the town, village, and hamlet aforeſaid, and the bounds and precincts of the ſame, or any one of them, done, had, made, or ariſing, or to be done, had, made, or ariſe againſt the form of any ſtatute or ſtatutes already made or hereafter made, which in any manner belong or pertain to the office of a juſtice of the peace, in as ample a manner and form as the juſtices or keepers of the peace of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, within the ſaid county of Surry, may or can hear or determine offences and faults done or perpetrated in our ſaid county of Surry, or in any parcel thereof, or make correction thereof, any ſtatute act, ordinance, or proviſion to the contrary thereof hitherto made, done, ordained, or provided in anywiſe notwithſtanding; yet ſo that they do not in any manner proceed to the determination of any murder or felony, or any other offence touching the loſs of life or limb, without the ſpecial command of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors: and that the aforeſaid bailiffs, ſteward of the court of the

the town aforeſaid, and recorder of the town of Kingſton upon Thames for the time being, or any three of them, of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid for the time being be two, lawfully may and may be able to attach by their bodies, all and ſingular perſons who ſhall or might be indicted by the inqueſt, by their ſervants, or miniſters, and deliver them all to the gaol of the town aforeſaid; to ſtay there until thence delivered, according to the law and cuſtom of our kingdom of England. And farther we will, and by theſe preſents do for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that the ſame bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, may have within the ſaid town of Kingſton, or the precincts and liberties of the ſame, one priſon or gaol for the ſafe cuſtody of all and ſingular perſons attached and to be attached, or to be ſent or adjudged to priſon or gaol in any manner whatſoever, within the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and the liberties of the

the ſaid town, and the village and hamlet aforeſaid, or the precincts of the ſame, or any one of them for whatſoever cauſe, which ſhall be to be enquired of, proſecuted, puniſhed, or determined in the town aforeſaid, or in the aforeſaid village or hamlet; to ſtay there until delivered in a lawful manner: And that the aforeſaid bailiffs for the time being, or their ſufficient deputies or deputy, may and ſhall be keepers of the gaol or priſon aforeſaid. *And* farther we will, and for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, give and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that the aforeſaid bailiffs, ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid, and recorder of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, or any two of them, by warrant in writing, ſigned with their hands or the hands of any two of them, may and may be able to ſend to the common gaol of our county of Surry, all ſuch perſons as ſhall in future be taken, arreſted, attached, or found in the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, or in the aforeſaid village or hamlet of *Surpeton*, *Ham*, and *Hatch*, or in any one of them, or within the

the precincts and liberties of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, for any felony done, or on ſuſpicion of any felony; to continue there until delivered in a lawful manner. *And further*, we will and grant for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors for ever henceforth may have, hold, and keep, and may and may be able to have, hold, and keep within the town of Kingſton aforeſaid yearly for ever, a * market, to be held on the Saturday in every week within the ſame town of Kingſton aforeſaid: and that during the time of that market, all and ſingular perſons coming and reſorting to that market, may and may be able for ever henceforth to ſell, buy, and expoſe to ſale all and all kinds of animals and live cattle, as well

* This market was formerly of much more conſequence than at preſent, and uſed to be held in ſome field (perhaps Little Field) as appears by the following extract from the *Magna Britannia*, and the *Hiſtory of Surry*: "The market is held here weekly on Saturday; it is kept in a great field, and is ſo big, as it "may indeed paſs for a fair."

horſes,

horſes, mares, colts, fat oxen, lean oxen, bullocks, cows, calves, heifers, ſheep, lambs, hogs, as other living animals of whatſoever kind, nature, or ſpecies they may or ſhall be, at their pleaſure, according to the laws and ſtatutes of our kingdom of England: and that the ſame bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, may have and take ſo much and ſuch like uſual toll, tollage, profits, advantages, and cuſtoms as and ſuch as, and in as ample a manner and form as is accuſtomed and uſed, or as lawfully can or ought to be had or taken in any other market within this our realm of England. *And further*, we have granted, and of our bountiful ſpecial favour and certain knowledge, and mere motion, do for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, all and all manner of iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures of all and ſingular the tenants whomſoever, entirely holding and not entirely holding, reſiding and not reſiding within the aforeſaid town and demeſne of Kingſton and

hundred

hundred aforeſaid, and the precincts and liberties of the ſame, to be loſt, impoſed, made, undergone, aſſeered, or aſſigned in any manner by any of them before the juſtices of oyer and terminer of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid county of Surry; and before the juſtices of aſſize of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in our ſame county of Surry; and before the juſtices of gaol delivery of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors in the ſaid county of Surry, aſſigned or to be aſſigned; and before the juſtices of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, aſſigned or to be aſſigned to keep the peace in the ſame county of Surry; and to hear and determine divers felonies, treſpaſſes, and other miſdeeds in that county; and before the clerk of the market of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in the aforeſaid county of Surry; and before the juſtices or commiſſioners itinerant of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in the ſame county of Surry, aſſigned or to be aſſigned; and before the juſtices or commiſſioners of ſewers of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid county of Surry, aſſigned or to be aſſigned; and before the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton upon Thames

Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward of the court of that town for the time being, and the recorder of the ſame town for the time being, or three or two of them, being juſtices of the peace of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the town aforeſaid, and within the village and hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid; and before the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and the clerk of the market of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the ſame town and the hundred of Kingſton and Elmebridge aforeſaid, and the precincts and liberties of the ſame; and before the ſteward and marſhal of our houſehold, and of the houſehold of our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid county of Surry; and before the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid; and before the eſcheator of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, of our aforeſaid county of Surry; and alſo before all other juſtices, commiſſioners, or miniſters of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors whomſoever, within the aforeſaid county of Surry; and that it may and ſhall be lawful for the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and

and their ſucceſſors, by themſelves or by their own proper officers and miniſters, to take, ſeize, levy, and have all ſuch like iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures to the proper uſe, advantage, and profit of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, and to take poſſeſſion thereof without account, to be yielded, paid, or done therefore, or for any part or parcel thereof to us, our heirs or ſucceſſors; to have to the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, without the hindrance, diſturbance, moleſtation, or impediment, of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, or of the juſtices, ſheriffs, eſcheators, coroners, or any other officers or miniſters of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors whomſoever. *And further*, Of our bountiful ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we do for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant and confirm to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, with all its rights, members, and appurtenances; and alſo ſo many ſuch the ſame and the like lands, tenements, and hereditaments,

taments, clerks of the market, eſcheators, coroners, macebearers, and other officers and miniſters whomſoever. And alſo, ſo many ſuch the ſame and the like eſcheats and forfeitures of lands and tenements, goods and chattels, treaſure-trove, deodands, goods and chattels called Mainour, chattels of felons and fugitives, felons of themſelves, condemned, convicted, attainted, outlawed, baniſhed, waived and put in exigent for felony, chattels confiſcated, year, day, waſte, and eſtrepement, iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, liberties, franchiſes, immunities, exemptions, acquittals, and juriſdictions whatſoever, which the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, or any one or any of them, by whatſoever name or names, or by whatſoever incorporation, or by pretext of whatſoever incorporation formerly had, held, uſed, or enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, uſe, or enjoy by reaſon or pretext of any charters or letters patents by our progenitor Lord John, formerly King of England; or by our progenitor Edward the Fourth late King of England; or by reaſon or pretext of any charters or letters patents by the Lady

Elizabeth, late Queen of England; or by any one of our progenitors in any manner formerly made, confirmed, or granted, or formerly lawfully uſed, had, or accuſtomed in any other manner, or by any other right, cuſtom, uſe, preſcription, or title whatſoever, yielding and paying yearly to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, ſo many and ſuch rents, ſums of money, and demands whatſoever, as they were formerly accuſtomed to yield or pay us for the ſame. Willing moreover, and by theſe preſents ordering and commanding as well the treaſurer, chancellor, and barons of our Exchequer at Weſtminſter, and other the juſtices of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, as our attorney and ſolicitor-general for the time being, and each of them, and all other the officers and miniſters of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors whomſoever, that neither they, nor any one, nor any of them, proſecute or continue, or make or cauſe to be proſecuted or continued, any our writ or proceſs whatſoever againſt the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, or the men or inhabitants of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, or any one, or any of them, for any things, matters,

ters, offences, claims, or uſurpations, or any of them, by them or any of them due, claimed, attempted, uſed, had, or uſurped before the day of the making of theſe preſents. Willing alſo that the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and inhabitants of the town aforeſaid, or any of them, be not moleſted or troubled by any, or any one of the juſtices, officers, or miniſters aforeſaid, in or for any debt, uſe, claim, or abuſe of any liberties, franchiſes, or juriſdictions within the town aforeſaid, and the liberties and precincts of the ſame, before the day of the making of theſe our letters patent, or be compelled to anſwer to them, or any one of them. *We alſo will*, and by theſe preſents grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, that they may and ſhall have theſe our letters patent under our great ſeal of England duly made and ſealed, without fine or fee, great or ſmall, therefore to be yielded, paid, or done in any manner to us in our *Hanaper, or elſe-

*Hanaper, an office in Chancery, wherein are paid all monies due to the King for the ſeal of charters, patents, &c. and to the officers for enrolling the ſame.

where for our uſe, although that expreſs mention of the true yearly value, or of any other value or certainty of the premiſes, or of any of them, or of any other gifts or grants by us, or by any of our predeceſſors or progenitors to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, or any of them, before theſe times, made in theſe preſents, is not made, or any ſtatute, act, ordinance, proviſion, proclamation, or reſtriction to the contrary thereof hitherto had, made, done, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

In witneſs whereof we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, the 17th day of November, in the firſt year of our reign over England, France, and Ireland, and thirtieth over Scotland.

CHARTER OF KING CHARLES THE FIRST.

Confirmation and Explanation of former Charters.

Grant of a Juriſdiction to the Bailiffs and Freemen of Kingſton, over the Hundred of Copthorne and Effingham, on their releaſing the Juriſdiction of their ancient Court Leet; and View of Frankpledge over the Manor of Richmond and Hamlet of Richmond, Peterſham, Kew, and Ham; with divers other Privileges.

CHARLES, by the Grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom theſe preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. Whereas our town of Kingſton upon Thames, in our county of Surry, is a very ancient and populous town, and ſituated on the banks of the celebrated and navigable river the Thames, from whence alſo it derives it name; from which town, by means of that river, different goods and merchandizes, laden in wherries and boats, are daily tranſported backwards and forwards to our city of London, and the ad-

jacent parts: And the men of that town have had, uſed, and enjoyed different liberties, franchiſes, immunities, cuſtoms, preſcriptions, and pre-eminences, as well by virtue and reaſon of different charters and letters patent formerly made and granted by our very dear late Father, King James of happy memory; and by divers others our progenitors and anceſtors, late Kings and Queens of England, to them and their heirs, by different names of incorporation, as by reaſon or pretext of different preſcriptions, uſages, and cuſtoms uſed and accuſtomed in the town aforeſaid. And whereas our beloved ſubjects the bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, have very humbly entreated us to confirm to the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, the former charters and grants of our progenitors and predeceſſors, and the aforeſaid liberties, franchiſes, immunities, cuſtoms, preſcriptions, and pre-eminences; and alſo to explain the defects, ambiguities, and doubts ariſing in thoſe grants, and illuſtrate the things expreſſed therein in inapt and unfit expreſſions, and reduce them

them into a certainty. And that for the better ruling, governing, and improvement of the town aforeſaid, we would vouchſafe to make, reduce, and create by our letters patent the ſaid men and inhabitants of the ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, by whatſoever name or names of incorporation they have hitherto been incorporated, and whether they have hitherto been incorporated or not into one body corporate and politic, by the name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingſton upon Thames, as ſhall ſeem moſt expedient to us. *We* therefore, willing that for ever henceforth there continually be in the ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames one certain and undoubted method of and for the cuſtody, peace, rule, and government of the people there; and that the aforeſaid town for ever henceforth be and remain a town of peace and quiet, to the dread and terror of the bad, and the reward of the good, and that our peace and other acts of juſtice may be the better kept there; and hoping that if the ſaid men and inhabitants of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, ſhould enjoy fuller liberties and privileges

by our grant, they would think themſelves more ſpecially and ſtrongly bound to do and perform all the ſervice they are able to us and our heirs, of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have willed, ordained, conſtituted, declared, and granted, and by theſe preſents do will, ordain, conſtitute, declare, and grant for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, that the men reſiding in and inhabitants of the town aforeſaid of Kingſton, and their ſucceſſors, for ever henceforth be, and ſhall be by force of theſe preſents, one body corporate and politic, in fact and name, by the name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingſton upon Thames; and by theſe preſents we erect, make, ordain, conſtitute, confirm, and declare them, for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, one body corporate and politic, in fact and name, really and fully by the name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingſton upon Thames; and that they by the name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingſton upon Thames be, and ſhall be in all times to come, perſons fit and capable in the law to have, purchaſe, receive, and poſſeſs manors,

manors, lands, tenements, liberties, privileges, juriſdictions, franchiſes, and hereditaments of what ſort, nature, or kind ſoever they be, to them and their ſucceſſors in fee and perpetuity, or for the term of a year or years, or in any other manner; and alſo goods and chattels, and any other things of whatſoever kind, name, nature, quality, ſort, or ſpecies they be; and alſo to give, grant, demiſe, alien, aſſign, and diſpoſe of manors, lands, tenements, hereditaments, and to do and perform all and ſingular other acts and things by the name aforeſaid; and that they, by the ſaid name of the Bailiffs and Freemen of the Town of Kingſton upon Thames, may and may have power to plead and be impleaded, anſwer and be anſwered, defend and be defended in any courts and places whatſoever, and before any judges and juſtices whatſoever, and other perſons and officers of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, and any others whomſoever, in all and ſingular actions, pleas, ſuits, plaints, cauſes, matters, and demands whatſoever, of whatſoever ſort, nature, or kind they may or ſhall be, in the ſame manner and form as any other of our liege ſubjects of this our kingdom

kingdom of England, being perſons fit and capable in law, or any other body corporate and politic within our kingdom of England, can and are able to have, purchaſe, receive, poſſeſs, enjoy, retain, give, grant, demiſe, alien, aſſign, and diſpoſe of, plead and be impleaded, anſwer and be anſwered, defend and be defended, do permit and execute; and that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, may have for ever a common ſeal to ſerve for the cauſes and buſineſs to be done by them and their ſucceſſors; and that it be and ſhall be lawful for the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, from time to time, to break, change, and new make that ſeal, as ſhall ſeem moſt fit to them. And whereas Lord Henry the Third, late King of England, our progenitor, by his letters patent bearing date the 13th day of September, and the fortieth of his reign, among other things, granted to his freemen of Kingſton aforeſaid, that they and their heirs, being men of the town, might elect and create coroners for the attachment of pleas of his crown ariſing within the town aforeſaid, and ſhould anſwer before

fore his juſtices itinerant in thoſe parts of the attachment made by them, and of other things pertaining to the office of coroner, in the ſame manner as other his coroners ought and were accuſtomed to anſwer. And whereas alſo Lord Henry the Sixth, lately King of England, by his letters patent dated the 18th day of March, and the nineteenth year of his reign, among other things, granted to the aforeſaid freemen of Kingſton, their heirs and ſucceſſors, That the clerk of his market ſhould not for ever henceforth follow or exerciſe, or cauſe to be purſued, followed, or exerciſed in any mode his office in their the aforeſaid town of Kingſton, or the liberty of the ſaid town; but that the ſaid freemen of the ſaid town, their heirs and ſucceſſors, ſhould have the correction of bread, and the aſſize of bread and ale, to be made or done within the town aforeſaid, and liberty of the ſaid town: and alſo, that they ſhould have the uſe and exerciſe of all theſe things in anywiſe touching the office of clerk of the market, with the fines, iſſues, and amerciaments as entirely as the towns of Wycombe and Windſor, or any other borough within the kingdom

of

of England then had. And wheres, moreover, Lord Edward the Fourth, lately King of England, by his letters patent done under the great ſeal of England, dated the 26th day of February, in the twentieth year of his reign, among other things, granted and confirmed, for himſelf and his heirs, to the freemen of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, that they ſhould be one body, in fact and name, and one perpetual community, incorporated of two bailiffs of that town, and men of the ſaid town, and ſhould have a perpetual ſucceſſion; and that they ſhould have within the town and liberty aforeſaid, the demeſne of the ſaid town and hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, and their appurtenances, the different eſcheats and forfeitures, iſſues, fines, and amerciaments ſpecified in the ſame letters patent. And that they might have and hold within the town of Kingſton aforeſaid every week, that is to ſay, on the Saturday of every ſuch week for ever, a court to be held before the ſame bailiffs and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward of the ſaid town for the time being; and that in thoſe courts they the ſaid bailiffs and their ſucceſſors, and the

ſteward

ſteward for the time being, ſhould hear and determine, according to the law and cuſtom of the kingdom of England, before them divers pleas and actions ariſing or happening for perſonal matters and things within that town, and the liberty, parts, and appurtenances of the ſame: and that the ſaid bailiffs, and their ſucceſſors, ſhould have one or two ſerjeants at mace within the town, demeſne, hundred, and part aforeſaid, to do and perform their buſineſs and commands. And whereas alſo our very dear Father, Lord James, lately King of England, by his letters patent, dated at Wincheſter the 17th of November, in the firſt year of his reign over England, France, and Ireland, and thirty-ſeventh over Scotland, among other things, willed, and for himſelf, his heirs and ſucceſſors, granted to the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors for ever thenceforth ſhould have and hold, within the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, a court of record on every Saturday in every week, yearly, for ever, before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid for the time

time being; and in the abſence of the aforeſaid ſteward of that court, before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid and the recorder of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or two of them, as by thoſe ſeveral letters patent aforeſaid, among other things, is more fully manifeſt and appears; in which ſeveral letters patent reſpective mention is made of the officers and offices of coroner, clerk of the market, bailiffs, ſteward of the court, ſerjeants at mace, recorder, and freemen of the town aforeſaid; but there is not in the ſame letters patent any diſtinct declaration or certain appointment by whom or in what manner, of what ſort of perſons reſpectively, to execute thoſe offices, the election was to be made, nor before which of whom any who ſhould be reſpectively choſen into thoſe offices ſhould take the oaths concerning ſuch like offices; nor are any other circumſtances neceſſary for the well appointing of the ſaid officers laid down in the ſame; and yet it has been, and ſtill is the cuſtom, that the ſame officers of the town aforeſaid, are and have been there choſen by continual uſe; and being ſo choſen, have reſpectively executed

cuted and exerciſed thoſe offices, as like officers in other boroughs or towns of the ſame kind have reſpectively been accuſtomed to perform and exerciſe. We therefore, graciouſly willing entirely to remove all queſtions, ambiguities, and doubts concerning the premiſes; and alſo to approve and confirm the cuſtom and uſe aforeſaid for and concerning the election of the officers aforeſaid, of our ſpecial favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, will and declare, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, give and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of Kingſton upon Thames, and their ſucceſſors, that the freemen of the town aforeſaid now being, and as many and ſuch others as henceforth, according to the cuſtom and uſage in the ſame place hitherto uſed and approved of, ſhall be elected from time to time from the free tenants of the manor of Kingſton upon Thames, in our county of Surry, into the freemen of the aforeſaid town, ſhall be and be called Freemen of the Town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, as hitherto was anciently the uſage of the ſame place. And we give and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and free-

men

men of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, that it may and ſhall be lawful for them at their pleaſure to elect from the free tenants of the manor aforeſaid, as many and ſuch freemen of the town aforeſaid as ſhall ſeem neceſſary to them; and if any, or any one ſo choſen at any future time, ſhall refuſe upon ſuch election to become a freeman of the town aforeſaid, that then and ſo often the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, or the major part of them, may have power by theſe preſents to impoſe any reaſonable fine upon ſuch perſon or perſons ſo refuſing for the public uſe of the town aforeſaid, and to levy the aforeſaid fine ſo impoſed in a due manner. And that there be and ſhall be within the town aforeſaid, two of the freemen of that town, according to the form there hitherto uſed to be choſen and appointed, who ſhall be and be called Bailiffs of the Town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid. And that the bailiffs of the ſaid town for the time being, ſhall be clerks of the market within the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and the liberty of the ſame, and within the hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe

wiſe Elmbridge, and the precinct thereof, to do and perform in a due manner all offices incumbent on them, as in paſt times was there uſed and accuſtomed. And that there be and ſhall be for ever afterwards within the town aforeſaid, two others of the freemen or other officers of that town in manner there hitherto uſed to be choſen and appointed, who ſhall be and be called the Coroners of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the town, hundred, and liberties aforeſaid, who jointly or ſeparately, and either of them, may do and perform all the offices duly incumbent on a coroner within the town, hundred, and liberties aforeſaid; and in this behalf we give and grant them full power by theſe preſents to perform in a due manner the office of coroner within the town, liberty, and hundred aforeſaid: And that our attorney-general, and the attorney-general of our heirs and ſucceſſors for the time being, be and ſhall be, from time to time, ſteward of the court of the ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, as hitherto has been there accuſtomed. And that they the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, may and ſhall always have one other man

ſkilled in the laws of this realm of England, to be choſen from time to time, and at all future times, by the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, who ſhall be and be called Recorder of the Town of Kingſton aforeſaid; to which recorder for the time being, we give and grant by theſe preſents, power to do and perform all the offices whatſoever appertaining to the ſame. We will alſo, and by theſe preſents give, grant, and confirm for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and their ſucceſſors, that it be and ſhall be lawful for the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, that they, or the major part of them, for the time being (of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid for the time being be two) as often as it ſhall ſeem to them to be fit and neceſſary, may and may have power at all future times to call together and hold within the Guildhall of the town aforeſaid, a certain court or convocation of the ſame bailiffs and freemen, or the major part of them (of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid for the time being be two); and

in

in the ſame court or convocation may and may have power to confer, treat, conſult, and decree upon the ſtatutes, laws, articles, and ordinances of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and the liberties of the ſame, and of the good governance touching and concerning the ſame, according to their ſound diſcretions, or according to the ſound diſcretion of the major part of them in the ſaid Guildhall from time to time aſſembled (of whom we will the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid for the time being to be two); and that the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for the time being, or the major part of them (of whom we will the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid for the time being to be two) being aſſembled and gathered together in the court or convocation aforeſaid, may and ſhall have, from time to time, and at all future times, full power, faculty, and authority to inſtitute, conſtitute, ordain, make, and eſtabliſh ſuch and ſuch like laws, inſtitutions, ordinances, and conſtitutions as to them, or the major part of them (of whom we will the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid for the time being to be two)

ſhall ſeem to them according to their ſound diſcretions good, ſalutary, uſeful, honeſt, and neceſſary for the keeping of our peace, and for the good rule and governing of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and the bailiffs and freemen, and all other officers, ſervants, artificers, and others inhabiting or reſiding in the town aforeſaid, and the liberty of the ſame, for the time being, and of others meeting together there; and to declare in what manner and order the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and all and ſingular other the ſervants, officers, artificers, and others inhabiting and reſiding in the town aforeſaid, and others being in the ſame, ſhall behave, conduct, and employ themſelves in their offices, functions, employments, and buſineſs within the town aforeſaid, and the liberty of the ſame, for the time being; and otherwiſe for the further good of the commonwealth and common utility, and for the good ordering of the town and liberty aforeſaid, and the ſellers of proviſions of the ſaid town and liberty; and alſo for the better preſervation, governing, diſpoſing of, letting and demiſing of lands, tenements, poſſeſſions, revenues, and hereditaments, either before or by

theſe

theſe preſents, given, granted, or aſſigned, or in future to be given or aſſigned to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, and other matters and things whatſoever of the ſaid town, touching or in anywiſe concerning the condition, right, and intereſt of the ſaid town, and the liberties thereof. And that the bailiffs and freemen of the ſaid town for the time being, and their ſucceſſors, or the major part of them (of whom we will that the bailiffs of the ſaid town of Kingſton for the time being be two) as often as they ſhall have made, ordained, or decreed ſuch like laws, inſtitutions, decrees, ordinances, or conſtitutions in manner aforeſaid, may have power to make, ordain, limit, and provide ſuch and ſuch like pains, puniſhments, and penalties, either by impriſonment of their bodies, or by fines and amerciaments, or both of them, of and upon the offenders againſt ſuch like laws, inſtitutions, decrees, ordinances, and conſtitutions, or any or either of them, as to them the ſaid bailiffs and freemen for the time being, or the major part of them (of whom we will that the bailiffs of the ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames for the

time being be two) ſhall ſeem to be moſt neceſſary, fit, and requiſite for the obſerving and preſerving the aforeſaid laws, ordinances, and conſtitutions. And that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for ever, may and may have power to levy, recover, receive, and have the ſame penalties, fines, and amerciaments, for the ſole uſe and help of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors for the time being for ever, without the hindrance of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, or any of the officers or ſervants of us our heirs and ſucceſſors, and without any payment or account thereof to be paid, rendered, or made in any manner to us, our heirs or ſucceſſors: All and ſingular which laws, ordinances, inſtitutions, or conſtitutions, ſo to be made as aforeſaid, we will to be obſerved, under the penalty in the ſame contained; yet ſo as that the aforeſaid laws, ordinances, conſtitutions, puniſhments, penalties, fines, amerciaments, nor any of them, be not repugnant or contrary to the laws, ſtatutes, rights, or cuſtoms of our kingdom of England. And whereas there already are in the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames,

Thames, two bailiffs of the ſaid town, and alſo two coroners, one recorder, one common clerk, and clerk of the peace, who is called prothonotary of the court of the town aforeſaid, and two ſerjeants at mace, and certain other freemen of the town aforeſaid, formerly elected and choſen into thoſe offices according to the uſe and cuſtom hitherto uſed and approved of in that town for the electing ſuch bailiffs, coroner, recorder, common clerk, and clerk of the peace, freemen, and ſerjeants at mace; we, graciouſly approving of thoſe elections of the new bailiffs, coroners, recorder, common clerk and clerk of the peace, freemen, and ſerjeants at mace, will that they be reſpectively continued in their ſaid offices, according to the uſe and cuſtom aforeſaid, and by theſe preſents declare and confirm the ſame for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors. And whereas by uſe and cuſtom in the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, for a long time hitherto continued and approved of a certain fixed, conſtant, and undoubted method of electing, continuing, and removing of the bailiffs of the ſaid town and other officers, there has been uſed and obſerved,

together with all the circumſtances of time, place, and other formalities and things accompanying and belonging to elections of this kind, as well in the annual election of officers of this kind renewed and to be renewed every year, as in caſe of removal or death of any or any one of them whenever they happen; we approve, ratify, and confirm, by thoſe preſents, for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the ſame town, and their ſucceſſors, ſuch like uſe and cuſtom in chooſing, continuing, and removing the officers of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, in manner and form there continued by uſe aforeſaid. We will, however, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, command, appoint, and ordain, that thoſe two of the freemen of the town aforeſaid, who, as is above ſhewn, ſhall after this in future be elected and nominated according to the cuſtom and uſe aforeſaid, before they be admitted to fulfil thoſe offices, ſhall, and each of them ſhall take their corporal oath before the laſt and next preceding bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the ſteward of the court of the ſaid town,

town. and the recorder of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or three or two of them in the preſence of as many of the freemen of the town aforeſaid as ſhall then chuſe to be preſent, to fulfil the office of the bailiffs of that town rightly, well, and faithfully, in all other duties touching the ſame: To which foregoing bailiffs, and the aforeſaid ſteward of the court and recorder of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or three or two of them, we give and grant by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, full power and authority to adminiſter, in manner aforeſaid, ſuch like oath to the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, from time to time, ſo to be choſen in future; and that thoſe two others who, as beforementioned, ſhall in future be elected and nominated for coroners from time to time, according to the cuſtom and uſe aforeſaid, before they ſhall be admitted to fulfil that office, ſhall, and each of them ſhall take their corporal oath before the bailiffs of the ſaid town, ſo in future to be choſen, appointed, and ſworn, and before the ſteward of the court of the ſaid town, and the recorder of the ſame town for the time being, or before three

or

or two of them in the preſence of as many of the freemen of the ſaid town as ſhall then chuſe to be preſent, jointly and ſeverally, rightly, well, and faithfully to fulfil the office of coroner of that town, and the liberty thereof, in all the duties touching the ſame. To which bailiffs, ſteward of the court, and recorder of the town aforeſaid for the time being, and any three or two of them, we give and grant by theſe preſents, for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, full power and authority to adminiſter in manner aforeſaid ſuch like oath to the coroner of the town, liberty, and hundred aforeſaid, from time to time ſo to be choſen in future. And that he who, as is beforementioned, ſhall be elected and appointed recorder of the town aforeſaid, before he ſhall be admitted to fulfil that office, ſhall take his corporal oath before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid for the time being, and in the preſence of as many of the freemen of the town aforeſaid as ſhall then chuſe to be preſent, rightly, well, and faithfully to fulfil that office of recorder of the ſame town in all the duties touching the ſame: To which bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, we give and grant

grant by theſe preſents, for us our heirs and ſucceſſors, full power and authority to adminiſter in manner aforeſaid ſuch like oath to the recorder of the town aforeſaid, from time to time, ſo to be choſen in future. We will alſo, and of our bountiful ſpecial favour, by theſe preſents grant for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kyngſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors at all future times may and ſhall have within the town aforeſaid, and the liberty and precinct of the ſame, ſuch and ſo many ſerjeants at mace, not exceeding together and at the ſame time the number of four in the whole, to exerciſe and fulfil all the duties touching or concerning the office of ſerjeant at mace within the town aforeſaid, and the liberty and precinct of the ſame, and within the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebrigg, and alſo within the hundred of *Copthorne and Effingham,

* The hundred of Copthorne and Effingham contains Ewel, Aſhted, Great and Little Bookham, Effingham, Epſom, Fetcham, Hedley, Leatherhead, Mickleham, Norbury, and Walton on the Hill.

in

in our ſaid county of Surry, as ſhall ſeem moſt expedient to the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid for the time being, and at their will and pleaſure, from time to time to elect, continue, and remove in the ſame manner as any of the ſerjeants at mace of the ſame place have hitherto been accuſtomed to be choſen, continued, and removed: And that the ſaid bailiffs for the time being may nominate and appoint under-bailiffs to execute the royal writs and other commands of the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, within the town aforeſaid, and the liberty of the ſame, and within the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrig, otherwiſe Elmebridge, Copthorne, and Effingham, or any or either of them, as to them ſhall ſeem moſt fit. And that every one of the aforeſaid ſerjeants at mace ſhall carry and bear, and may and may be able to carry and bear a ſilver mace, engraved and marked with the ſign of the arms belonging to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, and the arms of the town aforeſaid or otherwiſe, everywhere within the town aforeſaid, and the limits, precincts, and liberty of the ſame, before the bailiffs of the ſame town for the time being, or either

either of them, according to the uſage and cuſtom there anciently uſed. And alſo that the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, may and ſhall likewiſe have within the town aforeſaid and the limits, precinct, and liberty of the ſame, ſo many and ſuch officers reſpectfully, to execute and perform all ſuch like offices belonging to or concerning the ſame, and to elect, continue, and remove them in ſuch manner and form from time to time, as have been accuſtomed to be elected and appointed, continued and removed, within that town, and the limits, precinct, and liberty of the ſame. And that they the ſame ſerjeants at mace, and other the officers of the town aforeſaid, ſo as above mentioned, to be elected and nominated, before they or any of them be admitted to execute thoſe offices, ſhall, and every one of them ſhall take their corporal oath, rightly, ſurely, and faithfully to execute their offices in all things, and through all things reſpectively, touching or concerning thoſe offices before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or ſuch other perſons as ſhall have been there hitherto

hitherto uſed for like offices. To which bailiffs and other perſons aforeſaid, we give and grant by theſe preſents, for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, full power and authority to adminiſter ſuch like oath to the ſaid ſerjeants at mace and other officers aforeſaid, according to the form and cuſtom hitherto uſed in the town aforeſaid. And further, of our bountiful favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion, we will, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, give and grant to the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors for ever henceforth may and may have power to have and hold within the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, a court of record on every Saturday in every week, yearly for ever, before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or any three or two of them; and that they may hold in that court, by plaint to be ſet up in the ſame court, all and all kinds of pleas, actions, ſuits, and demands, as well real as perſonal and mixed, of all perſonal treſpaſſes by force

and

and arms whatſoever, and all other treſpaſſes whatſoever within the town aforeſaid, and the liberty and precinct of the ſame, and within the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmbridge, Copthorne, and Effingham, or any or either of them, done, committed, ariſing, had, or perpetrated, or hereafter to be done, committed, ariſe, be or be perpetrated; and of all and all kinds of debts, pleas upon the caſe, deceit, covenant, detinue of charters, writings, and muniments, and chattels, and the taking and detaining of cattle and chattels, and other contracts whatſoever, ariſing or in future to ariſe or happen from whatſoever cauſes or things within the town aforeſaid, and the liberty and precinct of the ſame, and within the hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmbridge, Copthorne, and Effingham aforeſaid, or any or either of them, although the ſaid treſpaſſes, debts, accounts, covenants, deceits, detinues, or other contracts ſhould amount to or exceed the ſum or value of forty ſhillings; and that ſuch like pleas, plaints, ſuits, and actions may be obtained, proſecuted, heard

heard and determined there before the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the ſteward of the court of that town for the time being, and the recorder of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or before any three or two of them by ſuch and ſuch like proceſſes, methods, and modes, according to the law and cuſtom of our kingdom of England, as and to which our liege ſubjects have been accuſtomed, and in as ample a manner and form as hitherto has been uſed in the court of the town aforeſaid, or as in any other court of record in any city, borough, or town incorporate within this our kingdom of England, has been uſed and accuſtomed; and that the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, may have cognizance of the ſaid pleas, as well real as perſonal and mixed, and of all other pleas whatſoever, of all things ariſing or happening within the town aforeſaid, and the liberty of the ſame, and within the precinct of the ſame, and within the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Emelbridge, Copthorne, and Effingham, or any or either of them. We alſo will, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſ-

ſors,

ſors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that the ſerjeants at mace and under-bailiffs aforeſaid, or any or either of them, may and may have power to execute their offices, and all the buſineſs and commands touching the court aforeſaid, within the town and liberty aforeſaid, and within the hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebridge, Copthorne, and Effingham aforeſaid, or any or either of them, and within the limits or precincts of them, or any of them, as is agreeable to our law, and in ſuch and the like manner, and by ſuch and the like proceſſes, methods, and modes as and by which the ſerjeants at mace of the town aforeſaid have hitherto been uſed and accuſtomed to execute ſuch and the like offices, buſineſs, and commands within the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and the liberty of the ſame, or within the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebridge, according to the cuſtom of the ſame town there uſed and approved of. And further we will, and by theſe preſents, of our bountiful ſpecial favour, and of our certain

knowledge and mere motion, for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, that they may have, enjoy, and take for ever, and may be able to have, enjoy, take, and levy to the proper uſe and profit of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, all and all manner of fines, iſſues, amerciaments, and profits to be impoſed, proceed, fall, ariſe, happen, or be forfeited in the aforeſaid court before the above-mentioned bailiffs and ſteward of the court, and recorder of the town aforeſaid, or any three or two of them in the court aforeſaid. And that it may and ſhall be lawful for the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, for the better having and enjoying the ſame fines, iſſues, amerciaments, forfeitures, and profits, to collect and levy in a due manner all and ſuch like fines, iſſues and amerciaments, forfeitures and profits, from time to time, by the hands of the proper ſervants of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, as well within the town aforeſaid and the liberty of the ſame, as within the aforeſaid hundred

dred of Kingſton and Elmebrigg, otherwiſe Elmbridge, Copthorne, and Effingham, and any of them. And further, we in this behalf graciouſly providing for the good rule and government of the town aforeſaid, and of the men living there and within the hundred of Kingſton, or reſorting to the ſame, of our ſpecial favour, ſure knowledge, and mere motion, have given and granted, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, do give and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that as well John Goldwyer and John Thorne, who were the laſt and next foregoing bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, for the reſidue of this preſent unfiniſhed year, when firſt they lately quitted that office, as Thomas Snelling and Read Cordrey, the preſent bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the bailiffs of the ſaid town to be in future as well during the whole time of their bailiſhip as alſo for one whole year next after they have reſpectively quitted their office; and alſo the ſteward of our town aforeſaid, and the recorder of the ſaid town for the time being, at all future times may

and ſhall be our juſtices, and every of them may and ſhall be the juſtice of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to preſerve and keep, and cauſe to be preſerved and kept the peace of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and the precinct of the ſame town, and within the village or hamlet of Surpeton, otherwiſe Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch, and alſo within all our hundred of Kingſton aforeſaid (except only our village of Richmond, in which our royal palace is ſituated); and to keep and cauſe to be kept, all ordinances and ſtatutes for the good of our peace, and for the maintenance of the ſame, and for the quiet rule and government of our people in all their articles within the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and the aforeſaid village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch, and the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton, and within the precinct of the ſame (except as before excepted) according to the form and effect of the ſame; and to chaſtiſe and puniſh all who offend againſt the form, ordinance, and ſtatutes of them, or any of them, within the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames,

Thames, and the village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid, and the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton and the precinct of the ſame (except as before excepted) as according to the form, ordinance, and ſtatutes of them ſhall be to be done; and to cauſe all thoſe within the aforeſaid town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred (except as before excepted) who have threatened any one or any of our people concerning their bodies, or the burning of their houſes, to come before them, or any one of them, to find ſufficient ſecurity of the peace, or for their good behaviour towards us and our people; and if they ſhall refuſe to find ſuch like ſecurity, then to cauſe them to be kept ſafely in priſon until they ſhall have found ſuch ſecurity. And that the aforeſaid John Goldwyer and John Thorne, the late bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, for the aforeſaid reſidue of the preſent year; and Thomas Snelling and Read Cordrey, the preſent bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the future bailiffs of the ſaid town, henceforth to be during all the time of their bailiſhip, and during one entire year next after their reſpective departure from

that office, and the aforeſaid ſteward of the court aforeſaid, and the recorder of the ſaid town for the time being, or any three or more of them (of whom we will that the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid of Kingſton upon Thames for the time being, or either of them, be one) have for ever henceforth full power and authority to enquire of, hear, and determine within the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and the aforeſaid village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch, and the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton, and within the precinct of the ſame (except as before excepted) all and all kinds of felonies, murders, homicides, robberies, mayhems, inſults, riots, routs, forcible entries on lands or tenements, treſpaſſes againſt the peace of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, unlawful aſſemblies, embraceors, conſpiracies, contempts, concealments; and alſo of all other miſpriſions, miſdeeds, defaults, neglects, cauſes and articles pertaining, or which henceforth may pertain to the authority or power of juſtices or keepers of the peace; and alſo the correction of all and ſingular malefactors and delinquents againſt the ſtatutes already made, or in future

future to be made concerning labourers, artificers, landlords, victuallers, foreſtallers, regrators and ingroſſers; and alſo all and all kinds of things whatſoever within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, and hundred of Kingſton aforeſaid (except as before excepted) done, had, committed, or ariſing, or to be done, had, committed, or ariſe againſt the form of any ſtatute or ſtatutes already made or hereafter to be made, or againſt the common law which belong or pertain to the offices of any juſtices of the peace whatſoever, in as ample a manner and form as the juſtices or keepers of the peace of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors in our county of Surry, can and are able to hear, determine, and puniſh for offences and crimes done or committed in our county of Surry, or any part thereof; any ſtatute, act, ordinance, or proviſion to the contrary thereof hitherto made, ordained, or provided in anywiſe, notwithſtanding ſo however that they do not in anywiſe proceed to the determination of any murder or felony, or any other offence touching the loſs of life or limbs, without the ſpecial command of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors.

Moreover, we will, and by theſe preſents, for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, may have within the ſaid town of Kingſton, or within the precinct and liberty of the ſame, a priſon or gaol for the ſafe cuſtody of all and ſingular perſons attached or to be attached, or to be ſent or adjudged to priſon or gaol, within the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and the village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred of Kingſton, Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebridge, Copthorne, and Effingham, or any of them aforeſaid, or within the juriſdiction of the court aforeſaid, for any cauſe whatſoever which can be enquired of, proſecuted, puniſhed, and determined in the town aforeſaid, or in the aforeſaid village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforeſaid, or within the juriſdiction of the court aforeſaid, *and detain them* there until they are delivered in a lawful manner; and that the bailiffs of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or their ſufficient

ficient deputies or deputy, may and ſhall be keepers or keeper of the priſon or gaol aforeſaid. And further we will, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, give and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that the laſt aforeſaid late bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, for the aforeſaid reſidue of the preſent year, and the above-mentioned preſent bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the bailiffs of the ſaid town to be in future henceforth, during the whole time of their bailiffſhip, and during one whole year next after their reſpective departure from that office, and the aforeſaid ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid, and the recorder of the ſame town for the time being, or any of them, lawfully may and may have power by themſelves, their ſervants, or officers to arreſt the bodies of all and ſingular ſuch perſons as ſhall or may be taken by the inqueſt before them as above mentioned, to be judged for any of the offences aforeſaid, and deliver and commit them to the gaol of the town aforeſaid; to ſtay there until thence delivered according to the law and cuſtom

of

of our kingdom of England. And that the ſaid late bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, during the remainder of the preſent year, and the above-mentioned preſent bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the bailiffs of the ſaid town henceforth, to be, during the whole time of their bailiſhip, and during one whole year next after their reſpective departure from that office, and the aforeſaid ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid, and the recorder of the ſaid town for the time being, or any two of them, by warrant given under their hand, or ſigned with the hand of any two of them, may and may have power to ſend to the common gaol of our ſaid county of Surry, all ſuch perſons as ſhall in future be taken, arreſted, attached, judged, or found in the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, or within the precinct and liberty of the ſame, or in the aforeſaid village or hamlet of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch, or any of them, or within the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton aforeſaid (except as before excepted) for any felony committed, or on ſuſpicion of any felony; to continue there until thence delivered in a lawful manner.

And

And that the keeper and keepers of that gaol for the time being may receive and ſafe keep thoſe who are thus put into their cuſtody until they are delivered according to law, and the cuſtom of our kingdom of England, we will, and firmly enjoining, command by theſe preſents, that they, or any one, or any of them, by a like written warrant, ſigned with the hand or hands of any one, or any of them, may and may have power to ſend to the public houſe of correction (in Engliſh the Houſe of Correction) of our ſaid county of Surry, all ſuch perſons taken or found, or to be taken or found within the aforeſaid village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred of Kingſton aforeſaid (except as before excepted) as ought to be impriſoned there or puniſhed for any crime, fault, or offence committed by them, according to the laws and ſtatutes of this our kingdom of England, in as ample a manner and form as any juſtices of the peace of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in the aforeſaid county of Surry, or any one of them, can or has power to ſend ſuch or ſuch like perſons to the ſame houſe of correction. And that the keepers, maſters, and governors

vernors of the ſaid houſe of correction, and every and any of them, may receive, keep, and detain thoſe thus ſent to them, according to the law of our kingdom of England; now we will, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, command, appoint, and ordain, that the before-mentioned John Goldwyer and John Thorne, the late bailiffs of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton; and Thomas Snelling and Read Cordrey, the preſent bailiffs of the ſame town; and Robert Hatton, eſq. the preſent recorder of the ſaid town, before they or any of them be admitted to execute the office of juſtices of the peace within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforeſaid, (except as before excepted) ſhall, and every of them ſhall take their corporal oath upon the holy Goſpel of God, well and faithfully to execute the office of juſtice of the peace within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred of Kingſton aforeſaid (except as before excepted) in and by all things and duties touching the ſame; and alſo the oaths in this behalf provided by the laws and ſtatutes of this realm of England, and required to be taken by

by juſtices of the peace before our beloved and very faithful couſin, Charles Earl of Nottingham, the preſent ſteward of the town aforeſaid; and our beloved and faithful Robert Heath, Knight, our attorney-general, the ſteward of the court of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton, or before either of them: to which Charles Earl of Nottingham, and Robert Heath, Knight, and each of them, we give and grant by theſe preſents, full power and authority to adminiſter ſuch like oath to the aforeſaid John Goldwyer, John Thorne, Thomas Snelling, Read Cordrey, and Robert Hatton, without any other warrant or commiſſion in that behalf to be procured or obtained from us, our heirs or ſucceſſors. We alſo will that thoſe two of the freemen of the town aforeſaid, who as above mentioned ſhall in future henceforth be choſen, preferred, and ſworn as bailiffs of the ſame town, according to the cuſtom and uſe aforeſaid, before they or any of them be admitted to execute the office of juſtice of the peace within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforeſaid (except as before excepted) ſhall, and each of them ſhall take their corporal oath upon the holy Goſpel of God, well

and

and faithfully to execute the office of juſtice of the peace within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforeſaid (except as before excepted) in all things, and by all the duties touching the ſame; and alſo the oaths in that behalf provided by the laws and ſtatutes of this our realm of England, and required to be taken by juſtices of the peace before the laſt and next preceding bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and before the ſteward of the court of the ſaid town, and the recorder of the ſame town for the time being, or before any three or two of them; to which laſt and next preceding bailiffs of the town aforeſaid, and the ſteward of the court, and recorder of the ſame town for the time being, or three or two of them, we give and grant by theſe preſents full power to adminiſter ſuch like oath to the ſaid bailiffs ſo from time to time to be choſen and preferred, without any other commiſſion or warrant to be procured or obtained from us, our heirs or ſucceſſors. Moreover, we will whenſoever in future it ſhall happen that the ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid, or the recorder of the ſame town for the time being, ſhall die, or reſpectively de-

part

part or be removed from thoſe offices, ſo that others ſhall be elected and appointed to thoſe offices reſpectively, according to the uſe and cuſtom aforeſaid, that then they who ſhall be thus reſpectively anew elected and appointed ſteward of the court of the ſaid town, and recorder of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, before they be reſpectively admitted to execute the office of juſtices of the peace within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforeſaid (except as before excepted) ſhall, and each of them reſpectively ſhall take their corporal oath upon the holy Goſpel of God, well and faithfully to fulfil the office of juſtice of the peace within the town, village, hamlet, precinct, liberty, and hundred aforeſaid, in and by all things touching that office; and alſo the oaths in that behalf provided by the laws and ſtatutes of this our realm of England, and required to be taken by juſtices of the peace; to which bailiffs indeed of the town aforeſaid for the time being, or either of them, we give and grant by theſe preſents full power and authority to adminiſter ſuch like oath to the ſaid ſteward of the court of the town aforeſaid, and recorder of the

ſame

ſame town, or either of them, ſo to be reſpectively elected or appointed anew to thoſe offices, without any other commiſſion or warrant for that purpoſe to be procured or obtained from us, our heirs or ſucceſſors. We have alſo granted, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames, and their ſucceſſors, that the bailiffs of the ſame town for the time being, ſhall not be forced, held, or compelled, nor ſhall either of them be forced, held, or compelled in any manner againſt their wills to go and appear before any juſtices or commiſſioners of the peace, or of labourers and artificers, ſheriffs, eſcheators, coroners, or before the ſteward or marſhal of our houſehold, or that of our heirs or ſucceſſors, or before the clerks or clerk of the market of the ſame houſehold, or before any of the juſtices of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, aſſigned or to be aſſigned, of oyer and terminer, or juſtices of aſſize, or for the delivery of the gaol or gaols belonging to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in the county aforeſaid, or before any other officers and ſervants whatſoever of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, as well

well within the town aforeſaid as without the ſame town; but that they the ſame bailiffs for the time being, from time to time, ſhall ſend, or either of them ſhall ſend the ſerjeant or ſerjeants at mace of the ſaid town for the time being, to do or execute their commands, or any other their buſineſs whatſoever, for or in reſpect of, or in any way touching or concerning the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, or the liberty of the ſame, or the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton, Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebridge, Copthorne, and Effingham, or the ſame town or liberty of the ſame, or the hundred aforeſaid, or any of them, before the aforeſaid juſtices or commiſſioners, ſheriffs, coroners, and other officers aforeſaid, or any or any one of them, whenſoever chance and circumſtances ſhall ſo require, to ſerve in the room and place of the ſame bailiffs, and each of them. And whereas, within the town aforeſaid, a market is held every week often enough for the common advantage as well of the men of the aforeſaid town as of the neighbouring people, of our ſpecial favour, ſure knowledge, and mere motion, we do for ourſelves, our

heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the ſame bailiffs and freemen of the ſaid town of Kingſton, and their ſucceſſors, that no other market ſhall from henceforth in future be created anew, or in any manner appointed, or any way held in any place whatſoever within the diſtance of ſeven miles from the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, either through us, or any one, or any of our heirs or ſucceſſors. And further we have granted, and of our bountiful ſpecial favour, and of our certain knowledge and mere motion, do for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, all and all manner of iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures, as well of thoſe bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, as of all and ſingular the tenants, entire tenants and not entire tenants whomſoever, reſiding and not reſiding within the ſaid town and demeſne of Kingſton, and hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebridge aforeſaid, and the precinct and liberty of the ſame, by them or any

any one of them, before the juſtices of oyer and terminer of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, aſſigned or to be aſſigned within the aforeſaid county of Surry; and before the juſtices of aſſize of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in our ſaid county of Surry; and before the juſtices of gaol delivery of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in the ſaid county of Surry; and before the juſtices of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, aſſigned or to be aſſigned to keep the peace in the ſaid county of Surry, and to hear and determine divers felonies, treſpaſſes, and other offences in that county; and before the clerk of the market of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, in the ſaid county of Surry; and before the juſtices or commiſſioners itinerant of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, aſſigned or to be aſſigned, in the ſaid county; and before the juſtices or commiſſioners of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, according to the ſtatutes of ſewers aſſigned or to be aſſigned, within the aforeſaid county of Surry; and before the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton upon Thames, and their ſucceſſors, and the ſteward of that court for the time being, and the recorder of the ſame town for the

time being, or before three or two of the juſtices of the peace of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the town aforeſaid, and within the village of Surpeton, Ham, and Hatch aforeſaid, and the hundred of Kingſton aforeſaid, and the precinct of the ſame (except as before excepted); and before the bailiffs of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and the clerk of the market of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the ſame village and hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Emelbrige aforeſaid, and the precinct and liberty of the ſame; and before the ſteward and marſhal of our houſehold, and the houſehold of our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid county of Surry; and before the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid; and before the eſcheator of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, belonging to our county of Surry aforeſaid; and alſo before all other juſtices, commiſſioners, or ſervants whomſoever belonging to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, within the aforeſaid county of Surry, to be loſt, impoſed, done, paid, affeered, or anywiſe aſſigned; and that it may and ſhall be lawful for the ſame bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors,

ceſſors, either by themſelves or by their own officers or ſervants, to ſeize, levy, take, and have all ſuch like fines, iſſues, amerciaments, ranſoms, puniſhments, and forfeitures to the proper uſe and profit of the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, for ever; and take poſſeſſion thereof, without any account to be rendered, paid, or made thereof, or of any part or parcel thereof, to us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, to have to the ſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, without the impeachment, diſturbance, or impediment of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, or of the juſtices, ſheriffs, eſcheators, coroners, or any other the officers or ſervants of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors whomſoever. And whereas alſo the abovementioned late King Henry the Third, by his letters patent aforeſaid, granted and confirmed for himſelf and his heirs to his freemen of Kingſton aforeſaid, that they and their heirs ſhould have for ever the return of his writs from the ſummons of his Exchequer, and all other his writs touching their ſaid town; and from the time of the completion of that charter, the freemen of the town aforeſaid, and the bailiffs and

freemen of the ſame town have had the returns as well of ſummonſes from the Exchequer as of all the other writs, precepts, and commands of the ſaid late King Henry the Third, and his ſucceſſors; and the executions of the ſame, as well within the town aforeſaid as within the hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebridge, which are and, from time whereof the memory of man is not to the contrary, were members and parcels of the demeſne of the town aforeſaid, and belonging to the ſaid town from the time above-mentioned, by *virtue of the general words:* Know ye that we, in order to take away all ambiguity in this behalf, and alſo in order to manifeſt our ample and royal munificence towards the bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, do of our bountiful favour, certain knowledge, and mere motion for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, give, grant, and confirm to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, and according to the tenor of theſe preſents, we will that the ſaid bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, for ever henceforth have the returns and executions

tions of all writs, precepts, and commands of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, and the ſummonſes from the Exchequer of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, as well of the green wax as the ſummonſes of the pipe and other ſummonſes of the Exchequer and of aſſize and attaint, and of juris utrum, writs of elegit, extent, and libertate, and of all other writs, ſummonſes, warrants, and precepts, although touching us or our people, as well within the town aforeſaid of Kingſton upon Thames and the aforeſaid hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Emelbridge, and moreover within the aforeſaid hundred of Copthorne and Effingham, in our ſaid county of Surry, and every part and parcel thereof, ſo that no ſheriff, bailiff, or ſervant of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, may enter the town or hundred of Kingſton and Emelbrigg, otherwiſe Elmebridge, Copthorne, and Effingham aforeſaid, or any or either of them, or any way intrude in the ſame, or any or either of them, to do or execute any thing touching or concerning ſuch like writs, ſummonſes, precepts, warrants, or mandates, unleſs through the default of the ſaid

bailiffs and freemen. And whereas alſo the abovementioned late King Henry the Fourth, by his aforeſaid letters patent, willed and granted to the aforeſaid freemen and their ſucceſſors, that no eſcheator of the ſaid King or his heirs, nor ſteward nor marſhal, nor clerk of the market, of his houſehold or the houſehold of his heirs, ſhould in anywiſe enter to do or execute any of their duties within the town, demeſne, hundred, and parts aforeſaid, nor ſhould they or any of them in any way intrude in any things concerning or touching their duties aforeſaid.

And whereas, moreover, Philip and Mary, late King and Queen of England, by their letters patent, dated at Greenwich, the 5th day of March, in the 2nd and 3d year of their reign, for the conſideration mentioned in the ſame letters patent for themſelves, and the heirs and ſucceſſors of the ſaid late Queen, among other things, gave, granted, and confirmed to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, thoſe two fairs and marts, which the ſame bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, by the grant of ſome of the progenitors

genitors of the ſaid late Queen then had, to hold the ſame at the days, years, and places there accuſtomed, with all the profits and advantages which belong to or have been accuſtomed to belong to the ſame fairs and marts. And that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, might have and hold, and might be able to have and hold the ſame two fairs or marts, in as ample a manner and form with ſuch like cuſtoms, profits, commodities, and advantages as they and their predeceſſors were accuſtomed, or ought to have and take in the town aforeſaid, in or by the fairs or marts before that time held there, by force or reaſon of the letters patent aforeſaid. And alſo that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, ſhould have and hold yearly in the town aforeſaid, one other fair there to continue two days, at the Feaſt of St. Mary Magdalen; that is to ſay, on the day of the ſame feaſt, and on the day next after the ſame feaſt, together with a court of piepowd at the time of the ſame fair, and alſo ſtallage and picage, fines, amerciaments, and all other profits, commodities,

chief, nor by military ſervice, ſo that the ſame manors, meſſuages, lands, tenements, meadows, paſtures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rectories, tithes, rents, revenues, ſervices, and other hereditaments ſo to be held, received, and purchaſed by them, do not exceed in the whole clear annual value one hundred pounds a year, beyond all charges and deductions, the ſtatute of mortmain, or any other ſtatute, act, ordinance, or proviſion hitherto had, made, ordained, or provided, or any other cauſe or matter whatſoever to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding. We alſo give, and by theſe preſents for ourſelves, our heirs, and ſucceſſors, grant to every one of our ſubjects, and the ſubjects of our heirs and ſucceſſors, ſpecial and free licence, and lawful power, means, and authority for them, or any or any one of them, to give, grant, ſell, bequeath, or alienate to the above-mentioned bailiffs and freemen of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and their ſucceſſors, manors, meſſuages, lands, tenements, meadows, paſtures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rectories, tithes, rents, revenues, ſervices,

and

and other hereditaments whatſoever, which are not immediately held of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors in chief, or otherwiſe, by military ſervice; ſo that all the aforeſaid manors, meſſuages, lands, tenements, meadows, paſtures, feedings, woods, underwoods, rectories, tithes, rents, revenues, ſervices, and other hereditaments ſo to be given, granted, bequeathed, or alienated to the ſame bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, do not exceed in the whole the clear annual value of an hundred pounds a year, beyond all charges and deductions, the ſtatute of mortmain, or any other ſtatute, act, ordinance, or proviſion hitherto had, made, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever to the contrary thereof in anywiſe notwithſtanding. And further, of our bountiful favour, ſure knowledge, and mere motion, we do for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant and confirm to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, with all its rights, members, and appurtenances,

tenances, and all the premiſes, and alſo as many ſuch the ſame and ſuch like lands, tenements, and hereditaments, clerks of the market, coroners, and other officers and ſervants whatſoever, and alſo as many ſuch the ſame and ſuch like eſcheats and forfeitures, lands and tenements, goods and chattels, treaſure-trove, deodands, goods, and chattels, called Maynour, chattels of felons and fugitives, felons of themſelves, condemned, convicted, attainted, outlawed, baniſhed, waived, and put in exigent for felony, chattels confiſcated, year, day, waſte, and eſtrepement, iſſues, fines, amerciaments, ranſoms, liberties, franchiſes, immunities, exemptions, acquittances and juriſdictions whatſoever, which the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, or any one, or any of them hitherto had held, uſed, or enjoyed, or ought to have had, held, uſed, or enjoyed, or ought to have, hold, uſe, or enjoy, by whatſoever name or names, or by whatſoever incorporation, or by pretext of whatſoever incorporation, or received the iſſues or profits thereof by reaſon or pretext of any charters or letters patent,

patent in any manner hitherto made, confirmed, or granted, by our pregenitor, John, formerly King of England; or by our progenitor, Edward the Fourth, late King of England; or by reaſon or pretext of the charter or letters patent of Philip and Mary, late King and Queen of England; or by any one or any of our progenitors or anceſtors; or by any other perſon or perſons whomſoever; or by any other manner, right, cuſtom, uſe, preſcription, or title hitherto lawfully uſed, had, and accuſtomed, yielding and paying yearly to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, ſuch and ſo many ſums of money and demands whatſoever as they now yield or pay to us, and for the ſpace of twenty years laſt elapſed have been accuſtomed to yield or pay in any one year: Willing, moreover, and by theſe preſents commanding and ordering as well the treaſurer, chancellor, and barons of our exchequer at Weſtminſter, and other the juſtices of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, as our attorney and ſolicitor-general for the time

time being, and every one of them, and all other the officers and ſervants of us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, that neither they nor any one, nor any of them, ſhall proſecute or continue, or make or cauſe to be proſecuted or continued, any writ or proceſs belonging to us whatſoever, againſt the bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, or the men or inhabitants of the town of Kingſton aforeſaid, or any or any one of them, for any things, matters, offences, claims, or uſurpation, or any of them, by them, or any of them due, claimed, attempted, uſed, had, or uſurped before the day of the completion of theſe preſents. Willing alſo that the ſame bailiffs and freemen and inhabitants of the town aforeſaid, or any of them, be not moleſted or hindered by any one or any of the juſtices officers or ſervants aforeſaid, or be compelled to anſwer to them, or any of them, in or for any debt, uſe, claim, or abuſe of any of the liberties, franchiſes, or juriſdictions within the town aforeſaid, and the liberty or precinct of the ſame, before the day of the com-

completion of these letters patent. *And whereas* we, of our royal munificence towards the bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingston upon Thames, and their successors, have by these our letters patent, not only graciously vouchsafed to confirm to the same bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, their ancient privileges, jurisdictions, customs, immunities and liberties, and to explain and reduce to a certainty all the doubts in the former grants and charters thereof to them made, but also, of our abundant special favour, have caused and granted that the jurisdiction of their court of record and liberty for the return and execution of the writs of us, our heirs and successors, and the precepts and commands thereupon, be enlarged and extended into the hundred of Copthorne and Effingham; and have given and confirmed other privileges, jurisdictions, and liberties to the same bailiffs and freemen, and their successors, as by these presents is more plainly manifest and appears. And whereas we require and expect, as a compensation and due retribution for all these things, nothing

elſe of the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of our town aforeſaid, than that the ſaid bailiffs and freemen ſhould quit and releaſe to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, only that part of the juriſdiction of their ancient court leet and view of franckpledge, which now extends within our manor of Richmond, and hamlet of Richmond and Kew, and Peterſham, and within the manor of Ham, part of or belonging to the manor of Richmond aforeſaid; therefore the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, as a ſatisfaction of our ſaid royal expectation, and in token of their duty towards us, and as a monument of their due gratitude, and in order that our will and deſire in that behalf may be the better effected, ſhall for themſelves and their ſucceſſors, covenant and grant to and with our heirs and ſucceſſors, that the bailiffs and freemen of our ſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames for the time being, will freely appear upon any writ of ſummons of a quo warranto to be obtained againſt them at any time, within the ſpace of ſeven years next to come, on behalf of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, or to be proſecuted

in

in the name of the attorney-general of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, for or concerning only that part of the juriſdiction of the court leet and view of frankpledge aforeſaid, which extends within our manor of Richmond, and Hamlet of Richmond, Peterſham, and Kew, and Ham aforeſaid, and will willingly releaſe and yield up to us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, by their plea to be levied and made in due form of law, that part of the juriſdiction of that court, being within the precinct and liberty of the manor and hundred aforeſaid; and will agree that judgment thereof be duly given and entered for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, ſo that it may and ſhall be lawful for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, to have, hold, uſe, and enjoy thenceforth for ever, againſt the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames, and their ſucceſſors, the court leet and view of frankpledge, and all things belonging or pertaining to ſuch like view of frankpledge within the limits and precinct of our ſaid manor of Richmond, and Hamlet of Richmond and Kew, Peterſham, and Ham only; and that the aforeſaid

bailiffs and freemen, and their ſucceſſors, after ſuch judgment to be obtained againſt them, ſhall be entirely excluded from all juriſdiction of the court or leet and view of frankpledge within the precinct and limits of the aforeſaid manor of Richmond, and Hamlet of Richmond and Kew, and within Peterſham and Ham only, theſe letters patent, or any thing contained or ſpecified in the ſame, or any uſe, cuſtom, or preſcription to the contrary thereof notwithſtanding. We will, however, and by theſe preſents for ourſelves, our heirs and ſucceſſors, grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, and their ſucceſſors, that the bailiffs and freemen of the ſame town, and their ſucceſſors, may and may be able for ever to have, hold, and enjoy a court and courts leet and view of frankpledge, and all other things belonging to ſuch view of frankpledge; and alſo may have, exerciſe, and uſe all and all kinds of juriſdictions, courts leet, and view of frankpledge, as well within the aforeſaid town, liberty, and precinct of the ſame, as within the hundred of Kingſton

ſton and Elmebridge, otherwiſe Elmebrigg, and within all the villages, hamlets, and places within the precinct of the ſame hundreds aforeſaid, the manor of Richmond, and hamlet of Richmond and Kew, Peterſham, and Ham only excepted, as fully, freely, and entirely, and in as ample a manner and form as any bailiffs and freemen of the town aforeſaid, in any of their courts leet or view of frankpledge at any time before the completion of theſe our letters patent were accuſtomed to have, hold, enjoy, uſe, or exerciſe the aforeſaid judgment to be given upon the aforeſaid writ of quo warranto in form aforeſaid, or any other thing above ſpecified in theſe preſents, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever notwithſtanding. We will alſo, and by theſe preſents grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames, that they may and ſhall have theſe our letters patent, duly done and ſealed under our great ſeal of England, without fine or fee, great or ſmall therefore, in any manner to be rendered, paid, or made to us in our hanaper, or elſewhere, for our uſe,

although expreſs mention of the true annual value, or of the certainty of the premiſes, or any of them, or of the other gifts or grants by us or any of our progenitors or predeceſſors, to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the aforeſaid town of Kingſton upon Thames before theſe times, made in theſe preſents, be not made, or any ſtatute, act, ordinance, proviſion, proclamation or reſtriction to the contrary thereof hitherto had, made, ſet forth, ordained, or provided, or any other cauſe or matter whatſoever in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

In witneſs whereof we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, the 13th day of December, in the fourth year of our reign.

By writ of privy ſeal.

Worleſey.

CHARTER OF KING CHARLES THE SECOND.

Grant of a Wedneſday's Market.

CHARLES the Second, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom theſe preſent letters ſhall come, greeting. Whereas by a certain inquiſition by our order taken at Southwarke, in the county of Surry, certified into our chancery, and remaining there by the oath of good and lawful men of the county aforeſaid, it is found that it will not be to the loſs or prejudice of us or others, nor to the hurt of the neighbouring markets, if we grant to the bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingſtone upon Thames, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors may have and hold a market in and upon Wedneſday in every week, by the year, at the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid; and to take to them and their ſucceſſors the toll, profits, and advantages proceeding and ariſing therefrom, as by the inquiſition aforeſaid is more plainly manifeſt and appears. Now know ye, that we, of our ſpecial

ſpecial favour, ſure knowledge, and mere motion, have given and granted, and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, do give and grant to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, that they and their ſucceſſors, from henceforth for ever, may have, hold, and keep, and may and may be able to have, hold, and keep a market in and upon Wedneſday in every week, by the year, at the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, in our county of Surry aforeſaid, for ever to be held, together with all the liberties and free cuſtoms, toll, tollage, ſtallage, picage, fines, amerciaments, and all other profits, advantages, and emoluments whatſoever in anywiſe concerning, belonging to, ariſing, or proceeding from ſuch like market, or which the ſame uſually had or enjoyed, to have, hold, and enjoy the aforeſaid market, liberty, free cuſtoms, toll, tollage, ſtallage, picage, fines, amerciaments, and all and ſingular the premiſes by theſe preſents above granted, or mentioned to be granted to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid,

ſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, to the only and proper aid and uſe of them the bailiffs and freemen of our town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors for ever, and this without account, or any thing elſe to be yielded, paid, or done therefore to us, our heirs or ſucceſſors; wherefore we will and by theſe preſents for us, our heirs and ſucceſſors, firmly enjoining, command and order, that the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of our town aforeſaid, and their ſucceſſors, by force of theſe preſents, may well, freely, lawfully, and quietly have, hold, and keep, and may and may be able to have, hold, and keep for ever, at our town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, the market aforeſaid, in and upon the day aforeſaid, together with all and all kinds of liberties, cuſtoms, toll, and profits proceeding therefrom, or in the ſame uſed or enjoyed, according to the tenor and true intention of theſe our letters patent, without the moleſtation, diſturbance, grievance, or contradiction of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors, or any ſheriffs, eſcheators, bailiffs, officers, or miniſters of us, our heirs or ſucceſſors whomſoever; and this without any warrant,

writ,

writ, or proceſs from us, our heirs or ſucceſſors in future, in that behalf to be procured or obtained, although expreſs mention of the true yearly value, or of the certainty of the premiſes, or any of them, or of any gifts or grants by us, or any of our progenitors or predeceſſors to the aforeſaid bailiffs and freemen of the town of Kingſton upon Thames aforeſaid, before theſe times, made in theſe preſents, be not made, or any ſtatute, act, ordinance, proviſion, proclamation, or reſtriction to the contrary thereof hitherto had, made, ſet forth, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever in anywiſe notwithſtanding.

In witneſs whereof we have cauſed theſe our letters to be made patent.

Witneſs myſelf at Weſtminſter, the 13th day of May, in the fourteenth year of our reign.

By writ of privy ſeal.

Howard.

All the above powers, franchiſes, liberties, privileges, and authorities, were by a deed of ſurrender, under the common ſeal of the bailiffs and freemen of Kingſton,

ſion, and dated the 10th day of January, 1684, ſurrendered into the hands of King Charles the Second; but the ſurrender, having never been inrolled, was cancelled by Sir Thomas Powis, Knight, attorney-general to King James the Second, and by the ſaid attorney-general delivered to Francis Browne, Eſq. recorder of the ſaid corporation, in purſuance of the proclamation made for reſtoring corporations to their ancient charters, liberties, rights, and franchiſes, in the fourth year of the reign of King James the Second.

A quo warranto was alſo brought againſt the bailiffs and freemen of this town in the firſt year of the reign of King James the Second, whereby they were required to ſhew by what warrant they claimed to have and uſe divers liberties, privileges, and franchiſes withiu the ſaid town; and in conſequence thereof a ſurrender and grant, dated the 18th of June, 1685, was made by the ſaid bailiffs and freemen of all their manors, meſſuages, lands, tenements, rents, and hereditaments, and all their franchiſes, letters patents of incorporation, powers, privileges, liberties, and immu-

immunities to King James, who thereupon, purſuant to his view of enſlaving the nation, by putting all corporations under the influence of the crown, granted them a new charter of incorporation by the name of Mayor, Aldermen, and Burgeſſes; whereby their election was veſted in the magiſtracy only. But this charter was never acted upon; for the laſt ſurrender, not having been enrolled, was alſo cancelled by Sir Thomas Powis, and returned to them, together with the former one, in purſuance of the proclamation above mentioned.

THE END.

EP AKM JMc
The charters of the town of Ki
Stanford Law Library
3 6105 043 461 008